MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

AGRICULTURE · HORTICULTURE · RURAL LIFE · EXCELSIOR · LITERATURE · SCIENCE · ARTS · NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.} "PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT." {SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,

AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY

AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,

With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

CHAS. D. BRAGDON, Western Corresponding Editor.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal,—rendering it the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

AGRICULTURAL.

THE TIMES AND PROSPECTS.

FOR months the whole country has been depressed, nearly all branches of business being affected, and others entirely ruined or temporarily suspended. The great rebellion has created wide-spread alarm and disaster, even among classes who could have withstood the storm uninjured but for their fears, and lack of confidence in themselves, the Government, and the result of the War for the Union. The commercial and manufacturing interests of the country—from those of New York down to the small and remote villages—have suffered immensely, seriously affecting all other branches of trade and production. Even the Agricultural Interest, which ought to ride out the storm safely, or at least with little injury, is temporarily depressed—the fears of the timid of other classes having seriously frightened many farmers, causing them to croak amazingly and adopt an unnecessary retrenchment, tending to a further prostration of business and prosperity. Indeed, the alarm has been almost universal among all classes—and the result, like the causeless fright and stampede at Bull's Run, has proved most disastrous to the whole community.

Matters were bad enough before the reverse of the Union Army just alluded to; but when that untoward event occurred, the boldest men seemed to waver and doubt for awhile, apparently fearing that all might soon be lost—that the material interests of individuals, communities, and, indeed, the whole country, would soon share a common and irretrievable disaster. The times were hard beyond comparison in the experience of most men, and the prospects very unpropitious—at least to all those who participated in the fears entertained by the timid and desponding. Many kinds of business were at a stand still, while bankers and capitalists were disposed to adopt a policy suicidal to themselves and community, by withholding such discounts, loans, and assistance as were necessary to sustain business men and the business interests from the impending wreck. The moral influence of the repulse of our army was great, and the idea that there was inefficiency in conducting the war very generally prevailed throughout the North. But we need not particularize; for our readers in city, village, and country alike know the chief causes of the depression which has recently affected all classes and interests.

But a re-action has commenced—business is becoming more active—people more hopeful as to the future. The times are consequently improving, though not as rapidly as many desire. Confidence, without which little can be accomplished in any business, is fast being restored among the intelligent masses of the Free and Border States, and the skies, so long overcast, are daily brightening. The taking of the Government Loan by the Bankers of New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, has already had a very favorable tendency in both city and country—rendering all classes more confident in regard to the future, and the confidence thus imparted cannot but have a wide and salutary influence. Many who a month ago feared the world was soon coming to an end—or at least that all business enterprises were to be ruined, and their promoters become bankrupt—are taking fresh courage, and now think, not only that the War will be prosecuted successfully under the active management of MCCLELLAN, FREMONT, and others, but that the people and country may survive the rebellious storm and its depressing consequences. Much depends, however, upon individual thought, expression, and action. Faith *and* works are requisite to form a proper public opinion. A judicious exhibition of confidence, pluck, and patriotism on the part of the People—with the prompt and rigid performance of its entire duty by the Government—would soon bring about comparatively good times, giving a great impulse to many branches of business, while money would be correspondingly abundant. The country is rich in the products of earth, with millions of money lying idle. The Government has good credit, and the Army is being well officered and organized for any emergency. Why, then, should we despair? Let us resolve to bring about a change by sustaining the Government in its efforts to suppress rebellion, and ignoring the faint-heart, do-nothing policy now so common among the People. Determined action in the right direction will speedily be followed by returning prosperity. Confidence, courage, and activity will inaugurate successful operations in both War and Business.

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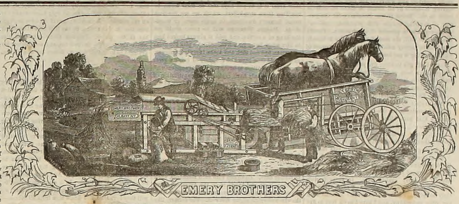

EMERY'S IMPROVED HORSE POWER AND NEW THRESHER AND CLEANER.

OUR engraving gives a good representation of EMERY'S Improved Horse Power and new Thresher and Cleaner combined. The patentees of this combination are practical mechanics and have been so long and extensively engaged in manufacturing and selling Agricultural Machinery and Implements that that they are familiar with the wants of the farming public. Their powers and threshers have been quite popular for the past ten years, and it is claimed that the improvements made from time to time, and especially during the past year or two, have resulted in producing the best machine of its class yet introduced. We are assured by parties in this section who have the new combination, that it is far superior to the endless chain machines heretofore used by them, doing the work in a better manner and without waste of grain—items worthy of note. The claims of the manufacturers—Messrs. EMERY BROTHERS, Albany—are briefly enumerated in their advertisement in this paper, to which we refer all interested. Their machines may be examined at the Agricultural Warehouse of E. D. HALLOCK, 114 State st., Rochester, who is agent for this vicinity—a fact we add for the information of readers in this section.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

WAYSIDE JOTTINGS.

THESE Wayside Notes are literally written "on the spot" where they are suggested—by the roadside, in the field, barn, or kitchen—just where I happen to be. It shall be the aim to speak of what I see as I see it, with such thoughts added as I think, and such suggestions as occur to me at the time. I leave Waukegan, my friend D. drives me four miles north-west, and we stop at a farm, made on the timber land, in the midst of the belt I have described as lying west of Waukegan. The farm had been "run down" by renters, and a year ago the owner found it necessary to come to it himself; and people wondered what he thought *he* could do on a farm, with no experience as a farmer, (being a brick-layer,) and poor health beside. Did he suppose he could hire his work done and make money?

"Why not?" asked the brick-layer. "Why, sir, if it will not pay to hire help at such rates as I can get help for per month to do the work under intelligent direction, it will not pay to farm it at all."

He was a close observer, not opinionated, willing, and apt to learn, could trace results to causes, and knew or soon learned how to adopt the practice which produced good results. And to-day his farm looks differently than it did under the irresponsible care of farm scavengers. His crops are and have been good, and he finds farming pays.

But there is one thing "old hands at the business" may learn from this tyro farmer. He employs a member of the family of my friend and companion, LEAD PENCIL, Esq., on his farm. It is made the duty of this member of this distinguished family to practice arithmetic on this farm—to record, calculate, and contrive, add, subtract, and divide. And if Mr. PENCIL asserts as the result of his effort that this crop or that, this animal or that, this practice or that does *not* pay, the crop is no longer made a staple, the animal is quickly disposed of, and the practice modified or radically changed; and only what *will pay* is practiced; and what will pay is performed, and in season. There is no complaint of want of time. Time is purchased in the extra labor employed, promptly—just as a man makes a prompt investment in merchandise when he can make money by it. Labor is purchased for the profit it affords the farmer, just as silk or sugar is purchased by the merchant for the profit he may realize from it. And be it known that the farmer who applies this rule to the management of his farm, will soon discover leaks and ways to stop said leaks; if he does not, he better far give up the business.

—Now we are invited to walk over the farm with this man. The orchard is seeded. We protest against it, and give reasons therefor. The farmer proposes to inquire further, and if it is a wrong practice, abandon it. That is right. Caution is a good "bump" to have, sometimes.

The meadows have been reclaimed from barrenness by the application of a top dressing of manure in the fall. When these timothy bulbs are so exposed to the sun, and the drouth is so much more effective to destroy them on this undrained clay, I would cover it at once with rotten manure if at hand; if not, with a coarse strawy mulch. It will pay.

I tell the farmer of the use of the mole plow or ditcher, and point out to him how these slopes, now baked and cracked with the drouth, may be drained into yonder slough, through which a ditch may be cut, and he is convinced it is best it should be done, and he is the man to do it.

—Canada thistles! as I live. Yes, sir, here are the first I have seen in the Western States—a right smart patch of them, too. My jack knife leaps from my pocket, and the process of defoliation commences at once, and *close to the ground.* The sight of these pests in a pasture awakens, vividly, memories of the "French bundles" I used to tie up with willow withes on the old farm, "when the dew was on." This process of defoliation was continued long after my friend had emphatically promised to "clean them out the next day." I hope he did not forget it, and I think he did not; for I was garrulous on the subject of its demerits. Did the writer own the farm, he would not be satisfied with cutting them down; he would *root them out!*

—Four or five miles north-west of Mr. K. we call on a Mr. S., who keeps fine sheep, and lets them run in the road—a very disreputable piece of business we thought for a reader of the RURAL to do—very. Had a fine buck—Spanish. Talking of farm practice, this friend remarked:—"Those men who are out of debt can afford to farm it well; but I cannot; can't do as I would if I were out of debt." It is this fatal belief in the impossibility of doing what it would pay to do, because it ought to be done, that binds so many Western farmers—and Eastern too—to a slavery little less exacting and intolerable than the worst of bad habits. The fact is, this practice of saying what cannot be done, what we cannot do, is nothing but a bad habit, and should be got rid of quite as quick as tobacco chewing or any other filthy practice. And this way of talking, and this belief that certain things cannot be done, leads to or induces filthy practices and habits. Everything is left at loose ends, and work is done by commencing where it should be finished. The front yard and the back yard, the barn and the house, the fences and the gates, the tools and the tool house, the entire premises, tell of the spirit of *Can't* which pervades the life and acts of the man. Such a man will never prosper. His hair will grow gray with fretting and stewing, while his hands are worn and calloused by the effort to undo what has been done [illegible] a sympathizing tear when I visit the [illegible] rich men's homes, and shudder as I realize the result of their life-work. The good time coming never comes to such men. They are not at all acquainted with the PENCIL family.

—We ride through a fine country to visit the dairy farm of Mr. L., who lives near the shore of Lake Michigan, and owns 1400 or 1500 acres of land, a considerable portion of which is timber. This land is divided into two farms—the one devoted to sheep and the other to dairy husbandry.

Mr. L. says that the dairy business has been more profitable than sheep, and he is not sure but it is now, with present prices of the two classes of products. He does not believe in oily wooled sheep. His sheep are of Saxon parentage, crossed, it may be, with some of the lighter oiled Merino families. But it was too hot to talk much about anything, and he was too busy in the harvest to do so.

Accordingly, we went over to the dairy farm where sixty-five cows are milked. The wife of the farmer shows us the cheese, and says the man who makes them is in the hay field. Every thing is as "neat as a pin" about the house, and the cheese look well. The cheese-room lacks ventilation to-day.

A talk with the dairyman, a young Irishman named HALL, and we determined to stay and see the process of making Illinois cheese. I ask how the rennet is prepared, saved, &c., and receive the reply: "We kill the calf three hours after sucking the cow, take out the rennet, turn it inside out, emptying out the curd, wash it clean, return the curd, and fill the rennet full of fine clean salt; then hang it up in a cool dry place till wanted for use. When wanted for use, the curd is emptied from the rennet, the rennet washed clean, cut in small pieces, and two rennets are put in milk-warm water to soak. Sufficient of this liquid is used to "bring the cheese." When the first quart of the liquid has been used, another quart is added, and again another until the strength of the rennet is gone. About a teacup and a half full of this liquid is used to bring the night and morning's milk of sixty cows—more, if it is not of full strength.

But Mr. H. has determined not to prepare his rennets after this mode another season. A neighbor has another way which he purposes to adopt, and he gives the mode as follows:—Take the rennet from the calf as before, clean it entirely of the curd, and chop it fine—as fine as it can be cut; then add as much black pepper as rennet, and whisky enough to wet thoroughly the pepper and rennet thus mixed.

When wanted for use, take a small quantity—a very small quantity—of this mixture, and add it to fresh whey—a teacupful of whey for 15 cows—and let it stand until the next morning, or twenty-four hours, when strain out the pepper and rennet and add the whey to the milk. This is quite as definite a recipe as I could obtain, and the reason given for adopting it was, that it required a less quantity of rennet, and it is easier prepared and preserved for use. This process of preparation is novel to the writer, but is said to be very effectual as used by one of Mr. HALL'S neighbors with a dairy of 15 cows.

The cheese is made in a large tin vat with a water chamber beneath it. The vat holds 150 gallons. At night this water chamber is filled with cold water, and if very warm, a large tin vessel filled with ice is suspended in the milk, care being taken to exterminate all animal heat from the milk and prevent it getting sour. The process of manufacture in the morning is not unlike that of most dairymen, except the curd is scalded, or cooked much more than is common. The apparatus used is not of the most convenient kind. But the work seems skillfully, and in the main carefully and neatly performed. After the cheese has been in the press 15 minutes, it is turned, and again in about two hours; then again about five o'clock in the evening; and taken to the cheese room the next morning when the day's cheese is ready for the press. But Mr. H. says it *ought* to be pressed 36 hours instead of 24. The cheese is turned every day until 6 weeks old, when it is turned once or twice per week. No coloring matter is used in the manufacture of the cheese, neither are the bandages colored. Whey butter is used to grease the cheese; if they are well bandaged and carefully rubbed, one greasing is all that is deemed necessary, and is all they get. The cheese crop of this dairy last year, alone, sold for $1,464. Seventeen hogs were also fattened, which averaged 300 lbs. each, and which sold at $5.36 per cwt. There will be more cheese made and more hogs fattened this year than last; the pasture is better.

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LIVE FENCING.

A VOICE FROM THE PRAIRIES.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Having noticed in your issue of the 27th ult., an article on the subject of Live Fencing, over the signature of W. M. BEAUCHAMP, I would heartily indorse his sentiments in the *abstract;* but as he has, *sans ceremonie,* bayonetted one of our best friends, I feel bound to have him arraigned, at least, before the tribunal of public opinion at the West.

Your noble journal has already attained, and deservedly, a wide-spread circulation in this part of our common heritage, and this is my only apology, if any is needed, for taking up the gauntlet thrown down with so little ceremony. Mr. B., with a sturdy thwack of his potent pen, declares "the Osage Orange will no more nor no better make a hedge than the Prairie Rose." Why did he not tell us on what grounds he condemns it? He says "a publisher examined over thirty Osage hedges in Illinois and found not more than five or six that could be called an apology for a hedge," &c. Is this conclusive evidence that the Osage is a failure *per se?*

We are much in the habit of looking to the East for light, and we take it hard to have the floodgates closed so abruptly, dooming us to grope our way in the dark. It must be confessed we are going astray with rapid strides, and it seems very cruel in Mr. B. to withhold argument in the premises. We are persistent in error, and wayward,—seldom induced to change our course, unless the quicksands and sloughs are pointed out. But to the point.

The history of live fencing as a *business,* dates back in Illinois some twenty years; as an *experiment,* a few years later. The subject of the first fair trial was the *English Hawthorn*—in the hands of competent hedgers from "Britain's Isle." The fairest test, by its most partial friends, resulted in utter failure, and they were forced to the conclusion that the Hawthorn was not *the* hedge plant, for Illinois at least—and why? It was found incapable of withstanding the heat and drouth of our summers, and the seasoning winds of winters, however well adapted to the mild and humid climate of England, or even that of New York. Even as an isolated ornamental tree, it grows feebly and thin here. Though its blooms and berries are pretty, we regard it, as a *hedge plant,* with no more favor than we do the "prairie rose." The next experiment was tried with the Washington thorn, (*Cratægus cordata,*) with only partial success. It adapts itself to the soil and climate, makes a fine, profuse growth, with sharp thorns and delicate leaves; and it also abounds in fragrant white flowers and red berries; but to make a hedge sufficiently strong against hogs and unruly cattle, it requires to be plashed, grows rather slowly, takes from six to eight years, with *some care* to complete the hedge, and after all it is subject, as are all the Hawthorns, to attacks of the borer and the million leaf-eaters. The Buckthorn (*Rhamnus Catharticus,*) is very hardy, a profuse grower, makes a thick, handsome hedge, but from want of thorns it is not sufficiently *repulsive* for outside fences, though we have seen a few good ones. Various other trees and plants have been tried for the purpose, without any success. Hence, as live fencing is, with us, a prime necessity, our research became earnest in quest of a plant for the purpose, which should combine the greatest number of requisite properties; and when "in the course of human events" visionary men introduced the Maclura, the shout of "Eureka" went up from Prairieland. In brief time it was demonstrated to be sufficiently thorny, and hardy enough for the 43d parallel. Moreover, it was found easy to propagate from seed, to transplant with great certainty, to grow rapidly, to repel insects and vermin, and to bear crowding and cutting to any extent; and as for durability, it was confidently asserted it would last *two hundred years!* certain old Texan rancheros having tried it, as the boy's father did the crow.

With marvelous rapidity it spread over Prairiedom, and so great was the public confidence in its efficiency, that some seemed to think all that was necessary was to load an old "scatter gun" with the seed, point it in line of the hedge row, and "touch off." Others procured the plants and carelessly stuck them in the rich, friable soil, and waited with confidence for results, and the only wonder is that such a proportion as five or six in thirty should succeed. Others, who succeeded in getting a "good stand," and believing it could stand *grief,* submitted it to severe tests—pasturing it, making a turn row upon it, cutting it down each month to thicken it the first season, and such like "mild punishment." As might have been expected, disappointment was the result, and the project would have been abandoned in despair had it not been for the examples of a few thorough, practical men, who, eschewing the doctrine that good things are apt to come spontaneously, set about hedging in earnest, and by simple means, and a small outlay of care and patience, succeeded in erecting barriers against brindled bull and "prairie rooter" alike. Even in the first round, enough good fences were made to demonstrate the practicability of hedging with the Orange.

The general faith, manifested by *works,* took surer ground, and *Hedge Fences* have become a fixed institution in the rural districts. There are now few neighborhoods in the older settled portions of Illinois in which it is not found on almost every farm. In winter it stands like a cordon of bristling bayonets, defying the inroads of the most headstrong stock, and in summer its "masked batteries" are alike effective in repelling the onset of pig, bull or bear,—in short, any thing that comes in contact with its terrible spines. A breachy horse is never known to make a second attempt to pass through or over a tolerable hedge of the Orange. I know of no plant that will better bear crowding and retain its vitality, and I have to-day examined a hedge so close and thick that a *rat* would be puzzled to make his way through it. At first, wide planting resulted in more failures than even the neglect and abuse before

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mentioned, yet many old, ragged rows, which a few years ago promised nothing but *nuisances*, have been plashed and "coopered up," and by this means are made into impassable fences, though imperfect hedges. I only wish your correspondent could examine, with me, the hundreds of miles of good hedges now turned out in the county of Fulton. I would like to see him compare the Orange in a finished hedge with the little fragile "prairie rose." Or, if he could view the landscape from the Mound, on which this is written—look down, as upon a map, over the succession of farms, stretching for miles on the gently rolling prairie, and see on every side the boundaries of field and farm defined by a streak of deep, rich green, looming up above the crops—he could not but be charmed with the sight. He would quickly retract his slander of the Osage. We at the West esteem it the best plant in the vegetable kingdom for *our* purpose; hence we are a little sensitive when outsiders derogate it. We base its chief merits upon its utility, and the absolute *security* it affords the farmer. When suffered to run up, (and many neglect to trim it,) the appearance is not ornamental, except in the distance; but when it is kept neatly clipped, nothing can be more graceful, or give to field or farm, small or large, such a charming finish.

Where a windbreak or screen is wanted, as around a stock-farm, pasture, or orchard, it should be planted closely, and allowed to run up as tall as it will; but along roadsides and wherever the view is worth preserving, it should by all means be shorn off and the brush burnt. Horse power machinery for the purpose of shearing hedges with precision, ease and speed, are now in process of construction. Should this operate well, the cost of keeping the hedges in trim will be merely nominal, though the expense of hand-trimming is not heavy.

Since I left this locality, five years ago, most of the hedges have been perfected, dead fences removed, and the whole landscape so changed and improved in its outlines that it scarcely seems like the same region. The only complaint heard against hedges is of the neglect to trim them by the roadside. In point of hardiness, the Osage hedges here withstood winters that have killed seedling apple orchards thirty years old, and almost every heart cherry in the country. Only in that part of Illinois where the gopher abounds is there found a single drawback to live fencing; and even there, though this rascally "sub-contractor" often eats off the roots and saps the foundation of the young hedge, the farmers are not discouraged from planting, and hedges will yet abound on every prairie farm. In these terrible times farmers are willing to put off every thing but their hedging. Plants are in greater demand than any other commodity, and I have known four to five hundred bushels of seed planted in a single town. The seed will be scarce while the war continues.

Canton, Ill., August, 1861. C. R. OVERMAN.

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FASTENING CATTLE IN STALLS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I have been a constant reader of the RURAL for a number of years past, and expect to be as long as I am in need of a good Agricultural Journal; and as it contains much information in regard to other matters as well as Agriculture, it answers quite as well for almost every class, whatever their occupation may be. But as *dairying* is my principal business, and having received much good information in regard to it, I am as willing to give what little I can for the benefit of my class as to receive. So, without any further preliminaries, I will proceed to give the dairymen a plan to fasten or unfasten cattle, (in stalls made the usual way amongst dairymen,) all at once, and without interfering with the usual way.

In the first place, get out strips of board, (1½ inch wide by 1½ thick is a good size, but it will answer smaller or larger;) have these strips of any length you please, so when they are spliced together, (which is done by halving them together at the ends, and planed with ½ inch pins,) they will reach the whole length of the stalls. Now put this slide (we will call it,) over the necks of the cattle, and under the top of the stalls on the manger side, and close enough so as not to rub hard. Nail some small pieces of board under this slide on every second stationary slat, and on the side of the top of the stalls, to keep it in its place. Shut all of the stalls and put the latches down, and then with a half inch auger bore a hole through the slide close up to the outside edge of every movable slat, and put pins through to catch against the slats to shut them, when the slide is drawn up. Then make a pulley 4 inches in diameter, 1½ inch thick, and with an inch pin fasten it to the top of the stalls, so that the lower edge of it will be in a line with the center of the slide. Now take a small chain, two or three feet long, and fasten one end of it to the slide about a foot from the pulley—fetch the chain under the pulley and fasten the other end to a lever, which should work up and down like a pump handle. Nail a piece of board 8 or 10 inches wide to the top of the stalls, and bolt the lever to that with one bolt put through about 2½ feet from one end; but the best way is to have the lever extend out behind the cattle, (when it can be done conveniently,) so you will not have to go between the animals to let them out or fasten them. If it works loose as it should, one cow will push the slide back if it is 45 feet long. If you want to let the cattle all out at once you must not let the latches down, but lay on the top of the slat one inch. Of course the lever must be kept in its place when the latches are not down. It is not much trouble to make it and it will pay well. E. B. TANNER.

Attica, Ohio, 1860.

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CROPS AT THE WEST.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—During my visit in this Western Country I have observed very closely the growing crops, as well as the grain that farmers have been harvesting. Wheat is now all secured in the stacks, and some have got through with their threshing. The crop is better than many farmers supposed it would be. The Chinch bug has injured some pieces of wheat very much, but on the whole, most of the farmers set the average crop at fifteen bushels per acre; some say eighteen bushels, but I hardly think it more than fifteen.

In Southern Wisconsin the Army worm has done a great deal of damage to small grain. They seem to be the worst in Rock county and counties west of there. Wheat is badly shrunk through those counties; the average probably about thirteen bushels per acre. Corn, through Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin, is backward, but is looking well. If September should be a warm month, the corn crop will be about an average. Potatoes will be rather a poor crop. They were greatly damaged by the drouth in the fore part of the season. As to the price for grain I can say but little. Most of the farmers are intending to keep their grain for an advance. Some have all of last year's crop on hand. There is a great deal of Timothy grass seed through this county; it is now worth $1.85 per bushel.

Lake Co., Ill., Aug. 1861. A. C. CUTLER.

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MOWING AND MOWERS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—There is, perhaps, no employment which breaks down the constitution of men like farming. More especially was this the case when agricultural implements were as rude and clumsy as they were thirty years ago. I have now in my mind's eye scores of men, employers and employed, who are suffering from this cause. Nothing tells more severely upon the system than mowing heavy grass by hand. I shall always recollect a piece of lodged clover which I helped to cut just as I was entering man's estate. Being ambitious to keep up with experienced hands, I drilled it through, but it nearly cost me my life. As it was, I was incapable of any labor for many weeks, and have been troubled with a weak side ever since. Yet, while I escaped, many have fallen. A fine young man of my acquaintance was killed ten years since by a scythe. Not by the point or edge, literally, but by swinging it through the grass. He hired out to a driving farmer, was put in with a stout set of hands, took his swath, and fell a victim to the drudgery of mowing. There is not a doubt if mowers had then been in use, that he would have been living now, and thousands been sound who are suffering from physical disability. How cruel it is to put boys still in their teens, to handling these man-killers, which we see hanging round farmer's dwellings, in apple trees, or woodsheds. DANIEL WEBSTER said he never could get the hang of a scythe, and said it always looked best to him when hung in a tree. What a pity the great statesman had not then and there invented a mower, as he would then have had the glory of being a great inventor in addition to being the "great expounder." He would not only have *explained* the constitution of his country, but also *saved* the constitutions of his countrymen.

One of my neighbors who has purchased a mower, and given it a thorough trial, says he would not part with it for three times its cost, if he could not get another. On his way home from the factory with his machine, he saw a mower, a horse rake and a hay turner, or spreader, all at work in the same field. "I declare," he remarked, "they ride to mow, ride to turn, and ride to rake their hay in these days." It certainly is a matter for congratulation that inventors are making agriculture more easy and pleasant than in former days. Equipped with such machines, such polished, light, and handy tools, the American farmers can charge upon the productions of nature with the vim and spirit of the Zouaves. The former, like the latter, have made charges upon the hillside and plain. Both have behaved admirably and used their favorite implements and weapons with skill. But as to the trophies of the past summer campaigns, the balance is greatly in favor of the scythe, the rake, and the fork, over the rifled cannon and the sword bayonet. The American farmer has won his Solferino and is now reposing on his arms till the fall campaign. His armistice is one of peculiar pleasures. What a time for pic-nics and parties, for berrying and visiting. Thanks to machinery and superior tools, we can enjoy this armistice. Our peace seems to give universal satisfaction. No letter writer is disappointed,—no apology needed. Such men as MANNY, MCCORMICK, WOOD and EMERY, are great benefactors. Their names will live when those of ARMSTRONG, COLT and BOWIE are forgotten. By the triumphs of their skill and genius, the tiller of the soil is enabled to command more leisure, and is every day approaching nearer to the true ideal of manhood.

Cambridge Valley, N. Y., 1861. H. K. F.

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The Bee-Keeper.

Prevention of Swarming.

THE heavy losses which bee-keepers sustained in consequence of the unusually unpropitious season of 1860 and the severe winter which ensued, have convinced the hitherto incredulous that the practice of allowing the bees to follow their own instincts or whims in all cases is far from being a rational system of bee culture. The system which permits stocks to swarm when and as often as they please, does, indeed, occasionally produce satisfactory results in districts where fall pasturage abounds, if the weather be then favorable to the labor of the bees; but it may also, as last year's experience incontestibly proves, involve the total ruin of an apiary. The colony which is kept in a small hive with the intention that it shall swarm, will gather a smaller amount of supplies than it would have done if more ample room had been furnished. A portion of these supplies will be carried off by the departing swarms; and another portion of the remainder will be used, to enable the colony to recover its lost vigor. The swarms will devote the honey they appropriated when leaving, and much of what they afterward gather, to comb-building and the nourishment of brood; and then, if the remainder of the season proves to be unfavorable, parent stocks and swarms will at its close be found alike unprovided with stores for the winter. Excepting where buckwheat is extensively cultivated, fall pasturage is usually scant and of small account; and the bees will be only the worse off, if the weather permits them to fly when there is nothing for them to gather. Besides, with the exception of that yielded by buckwheat, the honey gathered from the blossoms of fruit trees, locusts, lindens, &c., is of much better quality, and assures a much more successful wintering, than such as is collected from wild flowers, &c., in autumn.

For these reasons many bee-keepers are anxious to prevent or limit swarming, preferring to content themselves with a smaller yield of *good* honey, rather than jeopard the safety of their colonies. Others have not leisure to watch their apiaries, and thus suffer loss from absconding swarms, or are so situated that their swarms are apt to settle in inconvenient locations, and can only be secured and hived with great trouble, and occasionally at the risk of life. It is hence an interesting and important inquiry, whether swarming may not be prevented, and if so, *how?*

Undoubtedly, swarming may be prevented, but the process employed must be adapted to the varying circumstances. In some cases the simplest means—ventilation, enlargement of room, &c.—suffice for the purpose; while in others more energetic and compulsive measures must be resorted to. Bees will not attempt to swarm when the requisite conditions for swarming do not exist or have been seasonably removed. Sealed royal cells and their maturing inmates impel the old queen to depart with the first swarm, and the same cause urges the departure of the first issuing young queen with the second swarm. If these royal cells or the queens be removed, swarming will certainly be prevented. Our common bees also will not swarm, or very rarely attempt it, if furnished with a queen reared in the current year, nor will they usually build drone-comb or rear drone-brood; and, if populous, they will seldom fail to gather ample supplies of honey. In general, therefore, it may be regarded as an infallible preventive of swarming, to remove the old queen at the approach of the swarming season, and to destroy afterward all the royal cells but one. If the bees were left solely to the operation of their own instinct, the mere removal of the old queen would be the most effectual means of inducing them to swarm at an early day; but since it is well known that nearly two weeks will elapse before a swarm will issue from a hive so treated, we have time to destroy the supernumerary royal cells at our convenience. But if we have a reserve queen at command, and introduce a fertile one a few days after the old queen is removed, the bees will commonly themselves destroy the royal cells they are constructing—particularly if the colony be at the same time weakened by transferring a portion of the workers, which may be used to form an artificial colony.

It will be obvious to the reader that the processes here suggested can be availed of only where movable comb hives are used—which may, however, serve as additional evidence that rational bee culture, properly so called, can only be practiced with that kind of hive. But even with these, the inexperienced operator may encounter many unanticipated difficulties, and not unfrequently fail to accomplish his object. To find the queen, he may have to take out all the combs in succession; and if the hive is populous, the chances are ten to one that he will overlook her in the crowd. Practice alone can teach him where she is to be looked for, and so quicken his eyesight as to enable him to detect her at a glance.—*Dzierzon.*

Excellent Advice.

IF thou wilt have the favor of thy bees, that they sting thee not, thou must avoid some things which offend them. Thou must not be uncleanly; for impurity and sluttishness (themselves being most chaste and neat) they utterly abhor. Thou must not come among them smelling of sweat, or having a stinking breath, caused through eating of leeks, onions, garlic and the like. Thou must not be given to surfeiting or drunkenness; thou must not come puffing and blowing unto them, neither hastily stir among them, nor resolutely defend thyself when they seem to threaten thee; but softly moving thy hand before thy face, gently put them by. And lastly, thou must be no stranger to them. In a word, thou must be chaste, cleanly, sweet, sober, quiet and familiar; so will they love thee and know thee from all others.—*Butler.*

DURING the period when bees can gather honey, those on whom that department of labor devolves do not consume pollen. They subsist for the time on honey alone, and eschew all cruder nutriment—obviously to keep their bodies as light as possible, and thus better qualified for flying. At such time the nursing bees and the wax producers alone mix pollen with their food, to enable them to nurture the brood properly and to promote the secretion of wax. The nursing bees leave their post only once a day if the weather be fair, generally accompanying the young bees which issue to make the first experimental trial of their wings. If prevented by unfavorable weather for several days in succession from issuing and gamboling in company with their rollicking nurselings, they are apt to become diseased; and when the confinement is of long continuance, the consequences may be fatal to those who so faithfully adhere to the discharge of their functions.—*Am. Bee Journal.*

PROF. ZENKER marked a number of bees with a solution of ochre, and found by observation that those left their hive five times in quest of honey, between half-past five in the morning and noon—visiting a rape field in blossom one-third of a mile distant. He could not discover that any of these marked bees left the hive in the afternoon of the same day.

PROPOLIS, dissolved in spirits of wine or turpentine, has been used for varnishing tin and other polished metals, tinging them a lemon color and protecting them from rust.

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Rural Spirit of the Press.

Fast Growing Pork.

THE *New England Farmer* says: "We do not *work our hogs*, either in harness or on the manure heaps. When they have taken their meals and what exercise they please, they retire to a dry, roomy bed, lie down and grow, and make a business of it. An Irishman can overhaul the manure heap much cheaper than the hogs can. We slaughtered swine last fall, made from pigs that weighed less than 36 pounds each eleven months before, and the hogs weighed, when handsomely dressed, from 450 to 475 pounds each!"

Sawed Rails.

A WRITER to the *Prairie Farmer* says that when a man has rail timber that is hard to split, and has a saw mill, it might be good policy to saw the logs into rails, three inches square; but the same timber sawed into boards would make twice as much fence (we might add, if well made, twice as good). Rails should always be peeled. Bark preserves timber when alive, but hastens its decay when dead; unless buried in the ground, a post will be more durable if the bark be left on. Two kinds of timber, unless equally durable, should not be laid in the same fence; for one rotting before the other makes repair necessary.

Feeding Swine.

MR. TAGGERT, of Wayne, Ohio, at a meeting of the Ohio State Agricultural Society, said he was not in favor of feeding hogs long, to make them weigh large weights. He kept his in the clover field till the beginning of September; then, when the corn begins to harden, cuts it up, both ear and stalk, and feeds it to them. "One bushel of corn, in September, will fatten more than one and a half in December." Mr. T. recommended killing by the 15th of November, as being the most profitable time, for then there has been little expenditure of carbon for the production of heat, when, if left for another month, the cold, wintry storms make this necessary.

Hornets and Wasps Serviceable.

DAVID E. COX, of Lincoln Co., N. C., writes to the *American Agriculturist* that hornets and wasps are very serviceable in destroying insects which injure vegetation, and that they should therefore not be molested, but encouraged. He says that they rapidly cleared a pear tree on his premises of the aphides which infested it; also that a neighbor of his had a crop of tobacco saved from worms, which were destroyed by hornets. It is true that hornets and wasps prey upon insects, for the sake of the vegetable juices they contain, but they are also troublesome by attacking fruits, and their venomous stings make them unpleasant neighbors. Perhaps, however, they are more beneficial than injurious; if so, let them be preserved. Here is an interesting question for the investigation of young entomologists, who will find in it both pleasure and profit.

Kindness Toward Milch Cows.

WE find the following in *Wilkes' Spirit of the Times:*—One of the greatest errors in overcoming cows that are unquiet while being milked, is to whip, beat, kick and bawl at them. This is generally done, and the cow becomes afraid or angry, and instead of becoming better grows worse. Milch cows cannot be whipped or terrified into standing quietly, gently and patiently during milking. They dislike to be milked, for they know that loud words and hard blows always attend the operation. They dread to see the milker as the little urchin dreads to see the birchen rod in the hand of an angry pedagogue, when he expects to have it applied to his back. A cow, kindly and properly treated, is pleased to see the milker, gladly awaits his or her approach, and submits with pleasure to the operation of being milked. Every one having experience with cows knows this to be true. But the cow is opposed to change of milkers; she soon becomes attached to one person who performs the operation, and does not willingly and freely give down her milk to another person; therefore, have one regular milker to certain cows, and bear in mind, if you change milkers, it is at the expense of a loss of milk and of injury to the cow. All animals appreciate kind treatment, and resent abusive treatment. See that those who milk them can control themselves, govern their passions, speak low and kindly under almost any provocation, and soon the cows will learn that they are not going to be abused, and will submit to the operation. Milking should be performed at regular hours, not varying fifteen minutes one day from the other. No talking or laughing should be permitted.

How to Choose a Farm Horse.

JOHN BRANSON, in the *Ohio Cultivator*, gives the following rules to be observed in the purchase of a horse:

The farmer requires a horse that can take him to market and around his farm, on which he can occasionally ride for pleasure, and which he must sometimes use for the plow and harrow.

First to notice is the eyes, which should be well examined. Clearness of the eye is a sure indication of goodness; but this is not all—the eyelids, eyebrows, and all other appendages must be also considered—for many horses whose eyes appear clear and brilliant, go blind at an early age; therefore be careful to observe whether the part between the eyelids and eyebrows are swollen, for this indicates that the eyes will not last. When the eyes are remarkably flat, sunk within their orbits, it is a bad sign. The iris or circle that surrounds the sight of the eye should be distinct, and of a pale, variegated, cinnamon color, for this is a sure sign of a good eye. The eyes of a horse are never too large.

The head should be of good size, broad between the eyes, large nostrils, red within, for large nostrils betoken good wind.

The feet and legs should be regarded, for a horse with bad feet is like a house with a weak foundation, and will do little service. The feet should be of a middle size and smooth; the heels should be firm, and not spongy and rotten.

The limbs should be free from blemishes of all kinds, the knees straight, the back sinews strong and well braced, the pastern joints should be clean and clear of swellings of all kinds, and come near the ground, for such never have the ring-bone. Fleshy legged horses are generally subject to the grease and other infirmities of that kind, and therefore should not be chosen.

The body should be of good size, the back straight or nearly so, and have only a small sinking below the withers; the barrel round and the ribs coming close to the hip-joints. Shoulders should run back but not too heavy, for a horse with heavy shoulders seldom moves well; chest and arms large.

A horse weighing from 1,300 to 1,400 is large enough for a cart horse; from 1,100 to 1,200 is large enough for a farmer's horse, from 1,000 to 1,100 is heavy enough for a carriage horse.

I should advise every one to get some experimental knowledge of a horse before purchasing.

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Inquiries and Answers.

CATTLE IN THE HIGHWAY.—We are troubled with unruly cattle running in the highway. What shall we do with them, and what is the law in regard to pasturing the roads? By answering the above you will oblige more than one—SUBSCRIBER, *Oswego Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

MORTALITY AMONG SWINE.—Will some of the RURAL's readers please to give me information on the following, through its columns:—I have a disease among my pigs for which I cannot find any remedy. I have lost thirty-three out of forty-five. In the first place, they appear weak in the back, and in a few days their hind quarters will fall over sidewise, and the animal will drag them on the ground. They linger for a few weeks and die.—J. E. SANDS, *Lyndon, Ill.*

PLOWING IN CLOVER.—Will some experienced farmer inform me, through the columns of our RURAL, (the paper that has got everything in it that a man or woman wants to know,) how I can turn a heavy crop of clover under? What season of the year and how much team would be required? Would not a roller level it? We are now raising considerable quantities of clover here, which is heavy this year. Any one answering the above will oblige—OSCAR BERRY, *Fond du Lac, Wis.*, 1861.

DESTROYING MOLES.—Can you, or some one of your readers, tell me how to destroy those moles that work along beneath the surface of the ground, throwing up a small ridge of earth? The surface of my dooryard and garden seems completely undermined by them, and the roots of all shrubs and vegetables which they meet in their peregrinations are immediately severed, and the plants thus destroyed. They have become quite a pest, and any directions that would secure their extermination or expulsion would be regarded as a favor.—P., *Monmouth, Ill.*, 1861.

In the RURAL of October 6th, 1860, a correspondent stated that by digging holes in his front yard and garden, as for setting posts, he rapidly thinned them out. They had become so numerous about his premises as to be decided nuisances. The holes were dry pit-falls, and he finished the work of extermination with a stick, but says if he were obliged to wage another war against them, he would try what virtue there is in water, by keeping several inches of that fluid therein.

BANDAGING CHEESE.—Noticing an inquiry in one of the late RURALS, from a dairyman in Iowa, in regard to bandaging cheese, I send the following:—Take good cotton cloth, color with annatto, and when you turn the cheese the first time, have ready a bandage made by sewing together and running a string round the top and bottom, draw up and fasten ends, place a small cloth over the space not covered with the bandage; also paint this part with annatto, dissolved in lye. Then, to one pint of lard, take a piece of beeswax size of an egg, melt, and rub over the cheese while hot. If the cheese is made right, you will have no trouble; if not, nothing can prevent the flies from troubling you.—DAIRY, *Victor, Ontario Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Threshing Machines, &c.—Emery Brothers.
Agricultural Machinery, &c.—E. D. Hallock.
Trees, Shrubs, &c.—A Rare Chance—Joseph Blakemore.
Trees at Wholesale—Fahnestock & Baker.
The Austin Strawberry—Chauncy Miller.
An Artificial Leg—Dr. Douglas Bly.
Italian Bees cheaper than ever—K. P. Kidder.
Chester County Pigs—Paschall Morris.
Fruit Growers' Soc'y of Western New York—C. P. Bissell.
Nurseryman Wanted.
Clover Street Seminary—Amy Moore, Principal.
Fruit Trees for Sale—P. Bowen & Co.
Seed and Agricultural Store for Sale—Geo. F. Needham.
Fruit Catalogues—Prince & Co.
Trees for Sale—H. Southwick & Son.

Rural Notes and Items.

THE ADVERTISEMENTS in this paper are worthy the special attention of Farmers, Horticulturists and others. Those who need Fruit Trees, Agricultural Machinery, &c., &c., can now purchase at low rates, and should not practice a false economy by neglecting to provide what will prove of immediate or lasting benefit. If farmers wish the country restored to its wonted prosperity, they must patronize the manufacturers and dealers, as in so doing they will promote their own interests and those of community generally.

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REMEDY FOR EFFECTS OF SECESSION.—Our Prescription for the hard times and "blues," caused by the great rebellion, is this:

Confidence	.25
Patriotism	.25
Pluck	.25
Industry	.20
Patience	.05
	100

Dose—All you can bear, as often as the symptoms appear—the most prominent being weakness of backbone, faintness of heart, lack of faith in the perpetuity of the Union, &c. The remedy may be taken with impunity by all; even Northern men tainted with Southern (or "secesh") principles will find it far safer than the threatened application of tar and feathers or hempen fibrelia.

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THE TIMES ARE IMPROVING.—One of the best evidences of this fact is afforded us in the number of subscriptions and advertisements we are receiving, and the confident and encouraging tone of letters from various parts of the country. If such "straws" are true indications, a change is going on in public sentiment which will soon produce beneficial results—materially stimulating business and favorably affecting the entire community. That the times will ere long be easy, and money circulate freely, we are confident from the views and action of capitalists, and those engaged in extensive business enterprises; and it behooves all others to use their influence in the right direction—to pursue such a course as will aid in restoring the people and country to former activity and prosperity. The producing classes can do much in the futherance of this desirable object, as every word and act indicating confidence will have the right tendency. Let us all do our duty, and there must soon be a decided improvement in all departments of business.

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AMERICAN FLAX COMPANY.—A meeting was held in Lockport, N. Y., last week, for the purpose of organizing the American Flax Company, and considering the feasibility of commencing the manufacture of fibrelia, or flax cotton, in that place. Addresses were made by EX-GOV. HUNT and Hon. S. B. RUGGLES. The result was the organization of a Company under the above title, and the articles of association have been duly filed. The Trustees are: GEO. F. ALLEN, GEO. T. STRONG, and CHAS. E. STRONG, of New York city, and WASHINGTON HUNT, of Lockport. A series of resolutions were adopted, and a committee appointed to ascertain as to the extent of flax culture in Niagara Co., and the average yield of straw per acre. Though the headquarters of the Company are at Lockport, most of the capital was subscribed by New Yorkers. Such associations, properly inaugurated and managed, will ere long depose "King Cotton." Success to the enterprise!

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VALUABLE INVENTIONS—*The Rights of Patentees.*—The public, farmers especially, do not generally appreciate and respect the rights of patentees. All valuable inventions are more or less pirated upon, chiefly, in the first instance, by manufacturers, who sell to *users*, who thus become liable to the patentee for damages for *using* what belongs to the patentee, as much as his horse or house. The more valuable the invention, the more it is infringed upon, and the inventor deprived of his just reward. The law secures to the inventor and his assignees, for the term of fourteen years, under the old law, and seventeen years under the new law, "the full and exclusive right and liberty of making, constructing, using, and vending to others to be used," the results of his inventive genius. Hence, if the manufacturer infringes in making, he is liable in damages for making; if the manufacturer, or any other person, sells the thing patented, they are liable for selling; and if the farmer, or any other person, uses the invention, they are equally liable for using. These facts show the necessity of manufacturers, sellers, and users, exercising more caution and regard for the rights of patentees.

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THE DAYTON WHEAT IN MICHIGAN.—Mr. L. SHEPHARD, of Chelsea, Washtenaw Co., Mich., gives us the result of a year's experience with the Dayton wheat, compared with some other varieties. Seeing notices of the Dayton in former volumes of the RURAL, he last fall obtained two bbls. of Mr. HARMON, of Wheatland, and sowed the same Sept. 7th on 4½ acres of ground turned over after taking off a crop of hay in July, and cross-plowed two or three inches deep on the 1st of Sept. In the same field some Mediterranean was sown, to test the two varieties. Both grew well; in heading the Med. was a few days in advance, but in ripening the Dayton was several days the earliest, and on being threshed (Aug. 17) measured 135 bushels. The Mediterranean was threshed with other wheat, so that the correct yield was not ascertained, but Mr. S. estimates it at one quarter less than the Dayton. Toward the last of September Mr. S. sowed a small plot of ground with the Dayton and Blue Stem, side by side, as an experiment. "The result was, at harvest the Blue Stem was badly injured by the midge, while none could be found in the Dayton, the yield of which was as good as the early sown." Mr. S. concludes from his own experience, and the favorable reports from other quarters, that the Dayton is a valuable acquisition.

—It is proper for us to state that the Dayton, which succeeded very well for two or three seasons in this section, *does not fulfill the expectations of farmers*, and that very little was sown last fall compared with the preceding. We hope it will succeed better in Michigan.

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ADDRESSES AT FAIRS.—As the season is at hand when speakers for Ag'l Fairs are in demand, we would state that our occasional correspondent, Mr. GEO. W. BUNGAY, of Fort Plain, Montgomery Co., N. Y., is prepared to respond to invitations. Mr. B. has in former years addressed various societies very acceptably, and is again prepared to enter the arena with either prose or poetry appropriate for the Annual Rural Festivals.

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TO MEASURE CORN IN A CRIB.—Though some surmise that we may have little corn hereabouts the present season, the way to measure it in the crib may prove of interest to many of our readers. A writer in the *Prairie Farmer* says it may be done by multiplying the length, breadth, and height together in feet; multiply this product by four, strike off the right figure, and the result will be shelled bushels. He finds this rule reliable.

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HORSES AND MULES are still in demand for Government service—the former for cavalry and the latter for army wagon teams. Large numbers have already been purchased and sent to Washington, and the War Department has just authorized the purchase of 1,500 cavalry horses and 1,000 mules in Kentucky. A Washington dispatch says one hundred mules are daily broken to harness and handed over in teams of four to the wagoners—and that eleven thousand more will be there within a month.

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CROPS IN ONTARIO CO., C. W.—Under date of Aug. 16, WM. JEFFREY, Esq., of Whitby, C. W., writes:—"The crops throughout the county are exceedingly good, but very late. Our County Fair comes off on the 18 and 19th of September." We have similar reports as to the crops in other parts of Canada West—that they are good, though late.

HORTICULTURAL.

FALL PLANTING.

Autumn, we think, as a general rule, is the best time to plant hardy trees and shrubs. There are several things that make it the best time. A better selection of trees can be made then than in the spring. The weather is more favorable to doing the work well; there is more time, and the trees are in their places ready to take advantage of the earliest spring weather, if indeed they do not make some progress during the autumn and winter, which is often the case, as we could readily prove. Trees that are a little tender, perhaps are more apt to be injured the first winter, if transplanted in the autumn, than if they are removed in the spring and have the advantage of a summer's growth. Perhaps where persons intend to plant on undrained ground upon which water lies for weeks in the spring and during the thaws of winter, it would be better to plant in the spring, though the best way would be to thoroughly drain the soil or plant on a more suitable place. The presence of water around the trunk and roots of trees freezing and thawing cause the death of thousands every year. In sections of the country where the cold is extreme, winds high, and the season so backward as to allow plenty of time for procuring and planting trees in the spring, that is doubtless the best time. But we did not design to discuss this matter, which we consider of far less importance than is usually supposed, for if the ground is in proper condition, and the tree a good one, the time of planting is of secondary consequence.

Our object is to call the attention of readers to the fact that the coming autumn will be the best time to by *good* trees, *cheap*, that has occurred within the last twenty years. Every season nurserymen are overran with orders, especially for leading and popular varieties of fruit which cannot be furnished, and tree-planters are compelled to wait or obtain other and less desirable varieties. The present season the nurserymen prepared for an extensive trade — their stock is unusually large and as fine as can be desired. But, unfortunately, the attention of the people of the country is now called to other and important matters —the preservation of the country against the assaults of discontented and unprincipled traitors — men who would glory in trampling under foot not only the best government in the world, but the glorious principles upon which the government is founded. This has checked all extensive horticultural operations, and the probabilities now are that a portion of the stock ready for this autumn's trade will remain unsold. At least we are satisfied that purchasers will be able to obtain good trees of such varieties as they may desire, on better terms than ever before, and we urge all who can do so, to improve the opportunity.

Our country will continue free and happy for ages yet to come, and furnish, as of yore, an asylum for the oppressed of every land. The present storm we believe will purify the political atmosphere — make us as a Nation less selfish and more patriotic, and perhaps in the end more consistent with our professions and principles, and more worthy the respect of the civilized world. But, whatever may be the result, we have the promise that "seed time and harvest shall not fail." Let us therefore plant in hope, and we shall reap in joy.

WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

NOTES ON ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS.

I was particularly interested in the talk of Mr. P. on the ornamental trees and plants, as we passed rapidly through the grounds. And some of these sayings will interest the reader. We came upon a group of the sweet gum—*Liquidambar styraciflua*—growing here, perfectly hardy, Mr. P. says, and having a clean, sweet, fragrant foliage. It abounds in Indiana and in South Illinois. It grows nearly as fast here as the maples. Its beauty, cleanliness and fragrance render it worthy of trial.

A few days prior to my visit here, I met an intelligent gentleman from Knox county, who told me the silver maple, which has been very highly and unqualifiedly recommended for planting on the prairies in groves or belts, was growing in disrepute in his locality, because the winds break it so badly. The peculiar way in which its limbs are joined to its body, and its rapid growth, render it liable to be badly beaten and broken by every strong wind. This was the first serious complaint I had heard against it. I have accordingly made many inquiries, and find that others have noticed the same fact. In Mr. Phœnix's nurseries—in the nursery rows of small trees — I find the wind breaks the wood badly. Phœnix does not condemn them, however, because of this fact. They make wood so fast that some can be spared. Mr. Jessee N. Fell, near by, who has planted *fifty-five thousand* silver maples, in belts and for street shade, within three years, does not condemn them. He asserts that the amount of breakage is but a small per cent. in proportion to its growth; that its hardiness, rapid growth and beauty render it a very desirable tree to plant. It would doubtless be an advantage in every respect to plant evergreens among these silver maple groves or belts. In one or two instances where this has been done, the result has been groves of greater beauty and durability; they are of course more effective for protection.

White pines flourish in this soil and climate, grow rapidly, and make fine trees. They seem to be the especial favorites of Mr. Phœnix, who has a large plantation of them. He urges that it is one of the most profitable trees to plant for timber in the West. Why not?

The European white birch is a beautiful, hardy, rapid-growing tree here. It seeds at once and is easily propagated.

The ash-leaved maple is a rapid grower, distinct in its foliage, and promises to make a good shade. It grows readily from the seed, and as fast as the silver maple.

Mr. P. thinks the June berry—*Amelanchier Canadensis*, Torr. and Gray—will be a good stock for the pear. It has an early and sweet blossom, bears a palatable and beautiful berry. P. says "It is too much neglected. It will increase in variety. Has a great variety of foliage in its native haunts. See here; this specimen is decidedly weeping in its habit. The tree is particularly valuable for the Northwest as a beautiful and useful ornamental tree. Buds of it take on the apple, but they do not start. It buds as readily as the common apple."

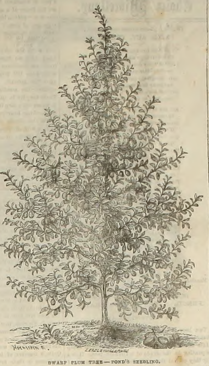
"The crab apple, for ornamental purposes, is growing in favor. There ought to be many varieties of it. We need more weepers in the West—some that are hardy. We want some good weeping evergreens."

The weeping poplar was pointed out, Mr. P. saying that he doubted if it was hardy in the North; but here it is a beautiful and hardy tree.

DWARF PLUM TREES.

Nearly all of our readers, we presume, have heard of the fine and productive plum orchard of Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry. Some we know have taken a good deal of pains to examine it for themselves, while others have only seen specimens of the fruit at the different Fairs and Horticultural Exhibitions. This plantation consists of about two hundred trees, all about nine years old, of some fifty or sixty varieties, trained in the pyramidal form, and made by this pruning and training to assume a dwarfish habit. Few of the trees are more than seven or eight feet in height, and for several years they have been loaded with fruit. The present furnishes the only exception.

Of one of these trees, which is only a fair specimen of the whole, we give our readers a drawing. We could have selected a more beautiful specimen, but none which better shows the manner of training. It is *Pond's Seedling*, one of our largest and handsomest plums, of a light red or violet color; and though the flesh is rather coarse, the size and beauty of the fruit makes it excellent for market. The tree also makes a good growth and is an abundant bearer.



DWARF PLUM TREE — POND'S SEEDLING.

Although plum trees are not dwarfed by budding on a different root, like pears or cherries, yet they require different treatment in the nursery from those designed for standards, as the lower branches must be retained and their growth encouraged. Persons ordering plum trees for this purpose therefore must so inform the nurserymen. We recommend this method of training for all gardens, on account of the small space they occupy, their beauty, and the ease with which they are protected from insects.

Looking at and talking about roses, Mr. P. said, "I believe that about half of these 'perpetual' roses have got to be kicked into the class of June roses. They not only do not satisfy, but they positively dissatisfy people; they do not please them—they are not 'perpetual' as the people understand that term."

"Here, see here! In England, you know, roses are generally grown in tree form. The great failure in this country, so far as I can learn, has been the want of a stock that would endure the climate and hold up the weak growers. If we can find such a stock, we may have tree roses. I have picked up a native—an upright grower—which I propose to bud. This stock makes a long single stem six feet or so; it is perpetual, and the only objection to it is that it suckers."

Again, "Here is a new species of lilac, Josekea or Chionanthus-leaved. It does not spread from its root as does the common kind—*S. vulgaris*. It has a dark, glossy, green leaf. It is distinct and marked. It flowers later than the other. Its blossom, however, resembles the common lilac."

Downing calls the upright honeysuckle the best shrub for a clump, and Phœnix indorses him. The different varieties are beautiful. The spiræas flourish here also, wonderfully.

A perpetual catalpa! Here we are in a way to get a perpetual catalpa. Last year this tree flowered twice. This season, in the blossoming season of other catalpas, it showed but a single blossom, but on this 8th day of July it is full set with buds.

Holly-leaved berberry—beautiful foliage; it is tender unless covered in winter when young; but it is beautiful, sure.

A TALK ABOUT FRUIT.

The Chickasaw plum of Shaw grows at a prodigious rate here, and is full of fruit. Mr. Phœnix says the curculio does not take them. We found some of the fruit stung, which were the first he had noticed. Mr. Shaw, of Tazewell county, is persevering and importunate in his recommendation of this plum.

A strawberry called "Cremont's Perpetual" has made its appearance in Chicago, introduced here by D. Worthington, Esq., from St. Louis. Mr. W., and others who have tested and tasted this fruit, think very highly of it; but the writer has been unable, either from the books or by inquiry, to learn aught of its origin or history, until he called Mr. Phœnix's attention to it. He thinks it a New Orleans berry. Does any one know more of it? It is early, large, productive, good flavor, and very promising indeed in the vicinity of Chicago. The two McAvoy strawberries—Red and Superior—are very productive at Bloomington; should be planted with some staminate like Wilson's, Phœnix says. He also says the Extra Red is a most excellent bearer, beautiful and tart. The McAvoys are not firm enough to carry well, hence will never be popular with growers. Longworth's Prolific is not prolific with Mr. P. He calls Jenny's Seedling an exceedingly sweet berry.

Here are pear trees bearing. With care in the selection of varieties, Mr. P. thinks there will be no difficulty in producing this fruit; but he is not prepared to furnish a list—has not had sufficient experience. This seems to the writer to be an error with too many nurserymen. They take too little pains—I speak of Western nurserymen—to *produce fruit*—to learn by experience what will really stand our climate—what is really adapted to our soil. There ought to be more experimental orchards attached to nurseries. There ought to be more successful orchardists among nurserymen. The influence of *demonstration* is much more potent than the *say-so* of all the professional horticulturists in the Republic.

We found some cherries here—thriving, and many of them in fruit. The Early Richmond is here, and we find is as often called by the proprietor the Early May as the former name. Mr. Phœnix says he got it under the name Early May, from Cincinnati; but he agrees with Mr. Wakeman that this question in nomenclature should be settled definitely and emphatically. It is to be hoped that Mr. Phœnix, Dr. Warder, and Tyler McWhorter, who compose the Committee on Synonyms, appointed by the State Horticultural Society, will pay some attention to this particular fruit, and report. As a market fruit, it is becoming noteworthy hereaway, and deserves the attention of pomologists.

The Donna Maria cherry is very productive with Mr. P., and is an early late variety. It is ripe here about the first of July. The stocks are particularly adapted to the dry weather and hot climate of the South.

Here we find an Arch Duke cherry—a dwarf—a perfect sugar-loaf-formed tree, with dark rich foliage. It is, or seems to be, perfectly hardy; whether it proves productive or not — for it has not been thoroughly tested in this respect by Mr. P.—as an ornamental tree, it is worthy a place in anybody's grounds.

We find here Kirtland's two new Morello cherries —Kirtland's Morello and Shannon. They are grown here as dwarfs, and are fine, thrifty, hardy trees—really ornamental. We found a specimen of the fruit on the Doctor's Morello. "Glory!" exclaimed P.; "it is going to be a good-sized fruit." Not ripe yet, this ninth of July; it will doubtless be a rich Morello.

"Here is a Shannon, too!—two—three of them! I tell you it is a fine cherry! It seems but little smaller than the Morello!" It has a smaller stone, a little ranker, rawer flavor, and is more astringent. It was not fully matured, however, when we tasted it.

We find the Belle Magnifique producing well here, and it is hardy. Phœnix says it should be headed low—as should all trees for this climate. It *is* capital here—a large white, sweet cherry.

A FARMER AND HIS SONS.

I have known in my life a good many farmers of enlarged means, whose sons, after receiving what is commonly called a *liberal* education, invariably deserted the farm and betook themselves to some other occupation, where they were furnished with constant exercise for the mental faculties. It was not always — not often, perhaps — ambitious views, or even the expectation of larger gains that induced them to desert the farm, but *what* it was may, perhaps, be best illustrated by drawing a picture of another farmer I once knew.

This man lived upon a small farm in the State of New York, by the industrious working of which he managed not only to earn a support, but also to lay aside a little as well for an unfortunate day as to supply his family with intellectual enjoyment. His two sons had received some benefit from schools, but as a collegiate education was expensive, the father resolved to do what he could towards educating them in another mode. As his desire was that they should follow the same occupation with himself, it struck him as of primary importance that he should first interest them in that employment, and then fit them for it. Though it might be very well for them to spend years in acquiring a knowledge of the dead languages, he thought it still more important that they should become intimately acquainted with the various soils, and with the conditions necessary to the healthy growth of trees and crops; and as life is limited, and knowledge infinite, he thought it good policy that they should first devote their time to that which was of greatest practical value.

It would have done you good to witness the interest which his two boys took in the various phenomena of nature to which he directed their attention. No professional student was ever so much delighted with his books, and for the sufficient reason that no other volume ever presented such intellectual feasts as the great Book of Nature unfolds. The unchangeable laws of animal and vegetable life upon which every operation in agriculture is based, were daily exhibiting to them new and beautiful illustrations; and whether it was seed-time or harvest, summer or winter, any labor to which their time was devoted, had for them its peculiar interest.

To their surprise they found many things in an occupation six thousand years old which were still the subject of experiment. The best time for planting trees, the soil, and conditions of soil suited to the different varieties, the best season for cutting timber with its durability in view, the best mode of preserving timber in the ground or out, and a thousand like things appeared still to be subjects of dispute, and though of prime importance, to be receiving little or no attention among their neighbors. The habits of the various insect enemies that destroyed their fruit and ravaged their fields, seemed little understood, and, in fact, these young men were frequently astonished at meeting with owners of large orchards who, though they could see their apples, peaches, and plums being daily destroyed by insects, were utterly unable to tell whether one or forty different species were the cause, and had never given a moment's attention to the habits of those insects, and to means for their destruction. Even the various birds that filled the neighboring woods with their music seemed little known, and some among the most useful of them all, who divided their time between singing and the destruction of noxious insects, were subjects of baseless and ridiculous suspicions in the neighborhood, and were slaughtered without mercy on charges the falsity of which might, with a little investigation, have been demonstrated.

The study of these and of kindred subjects made their labors a constant recreation to them. The daily care of the farm was no longer a task to be performed with machine-like stolidity, while the mind was constantly wandering to other avocations, and indulging in longing for something of a more engrossing nature. The care of trees, of crops, and of domestic animals was a perpetual study, full of interest, and lacking the dullness that pervades the task of the "professional" student, because every day's growth was presenting to their view new phases for contemplation and thought. For the application of the sciences, of the rudiments of which they had made themselves masters, they had frequent occasion, and as their minds expanded with the multiform nature of their practical studies, a taste of general literature crept in to add to the pleasures of their home.

I have sometimes thought that if some farmers I know were to bestow a little attention upon the career of these two young men, they might perceive at once the reason why so many among the most bright and enterprising of farmers' sons seek some other occupation, so soon as they are at liberty to do so. Where the mind is not interested, the hand disdains to labor. He who teaches his sons to work as he would teach the unreasoning ox to bear the yoke, must expect the restless mind to long for that activity elsewhere which he neglects to incite in his own employment.—*T. M. Cooley, Toledo, Ohio.*

Horticultural Notes.

To Preserve the Perfume of Flowers.—An English writer regrets the waste of flowers in many gardens, and recommends their use in perfumery for domestic purposes. He says:—"The cultivation of flowers for this purpose is carried on to an enormous extent in the South of France; the weight of blooms from which the odor is there extracted being reckoned by thousands of pounds. Highly purified fat is used for the purpose of absorbing the scent, which is thus transferred to the perfumer, who then re-extracts it from the fat by the aid of spirits of wine, for which it has a still stronger affinity. Why should we not grow flowers for their odors as well as for their colors? There are scores of flowers in our gardens that would yield admirable extracts with a little pains. For instance, there is Heliotrope, the Lily of the Valley, Honeysuckle, Myrtle, Clove Pink, and Wallflower. We have extracts of all these flowers in the perfumers' shops, but they are nothing but skillful combinations of other scents." He further suggests that every lady might be her own perfumer, and gives us a recipe for obtaining scent from Heliotrope, or any other sweet-scented flower. Now that our gardens are in full beauty and perfume, some of our fair readers may like to try the experiment for themselves, and we therefore give them the benefit of the recipe:

"At the season when the flowers are in bloom, obtain one pound of fine lard, melt it and strain it through a close hair sieve, allowing the liquid fat as it falls from the sieve to drop into cold spring water; this operation granulates and washes the blood and membrane from it. In order to start with a perfectly inodorous grease, the process may be repeated three or four times, using a pinch of salt and a pinch of alum in each water; it is then to be washed five or six times in plain water; finally, remelt the fat, and cast it into a pan, to free it from adhering water. Now put the clarified fat nto a glue pot, and place it in such a position near the fire of the green-house, or elsewhere, that will keep it warm enough to be liquid; into the fat throw as many flowers as you can, and there let them remain for twenty-four hours. At this time strain the fat from the spent flowers, and add fresh ones; repeat this operation for a week; we expect, at the last straining, the fat will have become very highly perfumed, and when cold may be justly termed *pomade a la heliotrope*. To turn this pomade into an extract fit for the handkerchief, all that has to be done is to cut the perfumed fat into small pieces, drop it into a wide-mouthed bottle, and cover it with highly rectified spirit, in which it must remain for a week. When strained off, the process will be completed."

Black Currants and Gooseberries in the West.—Dr. John A. Kennicott, of Illinois, thus writes to the *Prairie Farmer* of the culture of the Black Currant and Gooseberry in the West:—"In our dark, prairie soil, black currants have never been of much account; but, West and North, on sandy clay, I have seen the plants loaded with valuable fruit. Many persons dislike their peculiar flavor, until used to it; and it is questionable whether either of the common sorts will ever become as popular here as in Europe. How it will be with new varieties, it is hard to say. We have not sufficiently tested them. *Black English* and *Black Naples* are the sorts most cultivated. They are doubtless quite distinct varieties, though I have not discovered much difference in the fruit.

"The gooseberry is too much neglected West, and the reason is sufficiently obvious. The old and famous English sorts have been planted, and have failed. We have had some of them for twenty years, and never got a perfect berry! In Chicago, and along the lake, *on like soil*, many, if not most of them, have done well; and now and then one or more of the foreign sorts have been known to produce healthy fruit in other places. But these are exceptions only. Constant *mildew* is the rule, and discouragement and neglect the consequence.

"Still, there *are* some varieties that seldom, if ever, mildew; and, fortunately, these are of wonderfully easy propagation and rapid growth, and can be purchased for a trifle, and brought into bearing at once."

Among the overflowing abundance of this season, Kansas can also boast of a rich heavy crop of wild grapes. The woods of this vicinity, and we presume of the whole State, abound with this delicious fruit, which ripens here in July. During this week we have seen several samples gathered in the vicinity of Manhattan, of unusual size. They are more abundant this year than we have before known.—*Manhattan Express.*

Inquiries and Answers.

Double Fuchsia—Flower for Name.—I saw in the Rural the notice of a presentation to you of two Dahlias on one stem. I send you a Fuchsia which I think is quite as curious. Please give the botanical name of the inclosed flower through the Rural.—Mrs. C. N. S., *Albion, Orleans Co., N. Y.*

The Fuchsia is one of the double varieties. The other specimen is *Gilia coronopifolia*.

Perfected Tomato.—I wish to inquire through your ever instructive columns about the Perfected Tomato. Does it prove any improvement (worthy of note) on the old varieties? Is it any earlier? Is it a large or small variety? Is it firm fleshed, solid and productive? These are valuable qualities, as an early market vegetable, in which I am interested. From whom and where can the seed be obtained? A lady friend of mine desires instruction in the art of crystallizing grasses, flowers, &c.—D. Collins, *Haddonfield*, 1861.

The Perfected Tomato is very solid, with few seeds, tolerably smooth, though not perfectly nor always so, for the larger specimens are somewhat irregular. It is not as early as the smaller red tomato, and in this respect may be considered about medium. It is quite productive, and of a mild, good flavor. Seeds may be obtained here and of the leading seedsmen in most cities. We have several times published the method of crystallizing grasses; but the better way to obtain winter bouquets and ornaments is to grow the ornamental grasses and everlasting flowers.

Domestic Economy.

A CORRECTION, WAFFLES, &c.

In the recipe for chicken salad given in a late number of the Rural, for *wash* read *mash*. The eggs should be boiled hard.

Recipe for Waffles.—One quart of sour milk or buttermilk; one pint sweet cream, or half cup melted butter; one teaspoonful salt, and one of soda; flour enough to make a batter as for griddle cakes.

Another way to make them is to use the same quantity of sweet milk and cream, five eggs, one teaspoonful cream tartar, and one-half teaspoonful soda. Wait till this warm weather is over before you make any and you will relish them better.

Removing Sunburn.—If your young lady friends would like to know what will take off tan and sunburn, tell them to take a handful of bran, pour a quart of boiling water on it, let it stand an hour, then strain. When cold put to it a pint of bay rum. Bottle and use when needed.—Julia Joy, "*The Hive*," *Galesburg, Mich.*, 1861.

Blackberry Wine.—Take one bushel ripe blackberries, fifteen pounds best white sugar, two gallons water. This will make about five gallons of wine.

Manner of Making.—Take the bushel of blackberries, bruise well in a tub, and pour over them two gallons of boiling water; let it stand until cool, and then strain or press. To each gallon of juice thus obtained, add three pounds best white sugar. When the sugar is dissolved, put the liquid in a cask or some other vessel that will just hold it, and let it stand in a moderately cool place, without corking, to ferment. The fermentation will throw off the foreign matter from the liquid, by keeping the cask or vessel full, adding berry juice or water as the quantity is diminished by fermentation. When the fermentation has nearly ceased (which may be known by it ceasing to make any noise or but little effervescing), then cork tightly, and let it stand without being disturbed in any way until November or December. Then rack off the liquid carefully and throw away the dregs or lees, wash the cask clean, and return the liquid, and add two ounces of mashed raisins to each gallon; cork tightly, and let it stand a month or more, when you will have a wine of good drinking quality.—*Selected.*

Doing up Muslin Curtains.—To the correspondent who, in speaking of the method of doing up their muslin curtains, says, the glue she recommends makes them difficult to iron, I would suggest that the curtains instead of being ironed be pinned fast to sheets previously stretched and fastened, to a carpet. The curtains should be wrung from the starch and spatted with the hands a few moments, then pinned all along the selvedges, taking care to have them stretched perfectly smooth. The pins will not need to be nearer each other than twelve or fourteen inches. This can be done much quicker and more easily than ironing, and gives the curtains the appearance of new ones, if blued sufficiently.

For Waffles.—One cup of butter; three eggs; saleratus sufficient to sweeten the milk. Stir in flour till you have a thick batter, and add a little salt if needed.—Ada J. Curtis, *Delavan, Wis.*, 1861.

Drying Rhubarb.—Rhubarb drys very well, and when well prepared will keep good for an indefinite period. The stalks should be broken off while they are crisp and tender, and cut into pieces about two inches long. These pieces should then be strung on a thin twine, and hung up to dry. Rhubarb shrinks very much in drying—more so than any plant I am acquainted with, and then resembles pieces of soft wood. When wanted for use, it should be soaked in water over night, and the next day simmered over a slow fire. None of its properties appear to be lost in drying, and it is equally as good in winter as any dried fruit. Very few varieties of rhubarb are suitable for drying, as most of them contain too much woody fibre. The best kind for any purpose is the Victoria, when grown in a suitable situation. The Mammoth is worthless, owing to its fibrous nature, as are also some other kinds.

To Prepare Mutton Hams.—The following is from the *London Field*. One-quarter of a pound of saltpetre to half a pound of raw brown sugar; make them very hot and rub into legs of mutton over night. Next morning salt them with common salt. Let the mutton lie about a week, move it over and rub in fresh salt, and let it remain another week in pickle. Then hang it up to dry. When dry, keep it in canvass bags to prevent it being fly-eaten.

N. B. Do not let the mutton lie in the wet brine, but place something under to raise them from the dripping that will fall from them.

Tomatoes for Children.—There is no better remedy for derangement of the bowels in children while teething than stewed tomatoes fed to them plentifully; care being taken to keep the child's extremities warm. Be careful to cover its neck and arms, especially of an evening; give it crushed ice to assuage thirst if possible, rather than give it water; avoid cordials, as they only produce fever. The tomatoes ought to be ripe and fresh, though the vegetable preserved in cans has been used with great success.

To Remove Mildew from White Cloth.—Dissolve one tablespoonful of chloride of lime in a gallon of warm water, soak the cloth or garments in it one hour, then rinse in warm soap suds, and hang in the sun. What the preparation does not remove the heat of the sun will. I have tried this for a dozen years and never knew it to fail or injure the cloth, if not left in the water more than ten hours.—Subscriber, *New Bedford, Mass.*, 1861.

Dried Beef.—Slice dried beef very thin, put it in the spider with water sufficient to cook it tender, add sweet cream (or sweet milk with a little butter will answer;) let the milk come to a boil; stir in a little flour previously wet with cold milk, and let it boil long enough to cook the flour. This is an excellent dish to eat with baked potatoes. Try it.

Loaf Cake.—In looking over the domestic column of a late Rural, I noticed an inquiry for a recipe for making loaf cake. Here is one which I know to be good: — Three cups of buttermilk; three of sugar; one of butter; six of flour; one teaspoon soda; two of cream tartar; fruit if you choose.—Mrs. J. T.

Steamed Wheat Flour Pudding.—One quart of sour milk, ½ teacupful of cream, 2 eggs, 1 teaspoonful of soda and a little salt. Stir in flour so as to make a stiff batter. Steam one hour, and serve with sweetened cream.

Ladies' Department.

THE TWO ARMIES.

Two armies toiling day and night
By bridge and barricade—
Or by the hearthstone—full of might,
Each working for the truth and right,
And neither one afraid.

Two armies;—one of noble men,
All strong, and stern, and brave;
Forward at duty's call—and then,
It matters not the how or when,
To glory or the grave.

Their country's glory is their own,
Their common grave, her shame;
Their watchword UNION, that alone,
Though on the field their hosts be strown,
Shall lead them yet to fame.

Two armies;—but the second one—
A fairer, sadder sight;
With steadfast purpose, all as one,
With sickening labor, never done,—
Toils tearless for the fight.

Daughters of men! we know you now
For what ye ever were;
Angels with calm unclouded brow,
Before whom every man should bow
In penitence of prayer.

Though death should come, and come full soon,
We fear him nevermore;
We ask of heaven one only boon,
And pray beneath the placid moon,
Who never prayed before.

"Oh, Lord, within the coming strife,
Sad war of kindred blood,
Grant strength to every soldier's wife,
Teach her to live without his life,
And so reward the good."

By every tear-damped thread she draws,
By every needle's gleam,
She links her heart's blood to the cause,
She binds her soul to arm our laws,—
Wounded but to redeem.

Oh, soldier in your camp by night,
Bethink you of her toil,
How you are linked, though dead in fight,
By golden soul rays glimmering bright
In sorrow and turmoil.

Linked to a nobler soul on earth,
By these weak bands of thread;
'Twas woman's love that gave you birth,
Her love shall bind, come grief, come mirth,
The living to the dead.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

HARD TRUTHS—CLOSING WORDS.

I PERCEIVE that some of the RURAL'S correspondents are determined to give "Hard Truths" a hard battle. And thus far *all* the bombarding has been upon one side, no one daring to offer any resistence or defense. As the firing has temporarily ceased, and the "furor" somewhat abated, like one in an ancient and more important controversy, "I also will shew mine opinion." Almost everything complained of by "Farmer's Wife" was solid truth, and yet the half was not told. But, like a thousand other evils in our world, the remedy is not to be found in merely *complaining* of them. If it were, we might swell the list to an indefinite length, and utter some most bitter wailings.

A review of all the reviewers I will not attempt, but will notice a few of them, entirely omitting the *hard* epithets of "Hoven Coven," as beneath my notice, and confine myself to a few *facts*, which all admit are "stubborn things," equivalent to "hard truths." The schoolmistress' assertion that "*good* mistresses always have *good* help," is as far from the truth as need be. For, in *my* meanderings about the world, I *too* have taken a few notes of observation, and I find that *they* are as likely to get the *worst* of help as anybody, and endure them with a martyr-like patience and fortitude, (too proud and high-minded to complain without any possibility of redress,) till forbearance ceased to be a virtue, when they were quietly and artfully dismissed. I could cite an instance of a mild, peaceable lady being ordered back from her kitchen (with as much insolence and authority as you would expel an interloping dog,) by the presiding genius, and when she *did* stealthily peep into her oven, she found her pastry not "burning to cinders," but not baking at all, the damper not even turned, and not fire enough to warm a chicken!—while the kitchen employe was enjoying a walk in the adjacent orchard! Miss Pedagogue will find, when she comes to be installed mistress, that teaching "the young idea how to shoot," and having the care of a few little children a few hours in the day, who come there with the understanding that they are to yield *implicit obedience* to her authority, is quite a different thing from attempting to teach rude, ignorant, hoydenish girls the manipulations of housewifery. In most instances they have attained to adult age without any physical, moral or religious restraint whatever; and of course are not *amenable* to any *authority*, and cannot bear the mildest reproof or the kindest comment, without turning upon you a look of insulted dignity, and perhaps hurl at you a *shower of wrath* for daring to insinuate that *they* did not *know* all about work!

I chanced to be present on a certain occasion when a stout, rather good-looking girl of fourteen or fifteen years of age presented herself to do housework, demanding one dollar per week. The woman, a good housekeeper, willing to superintend and do her part of the work, with only a small family and limited means, really needing but *one* domestic, very reasonably questioned her (as every one should) as to her qualifications, much as follows:—Can you do the washing, starching and ironing for a small family? No, ma'am, I never *washed* in my life. Can you make a batch of good bread? No, ma'am, I never baked bread. Can you make pies or cake? I can make cake after the recipe. Discouraged in this line, she proceeded:—Can you cut and make a farmer's shirts, loose jacket, or overalls? No, ma'am. Make children's clothes, &c.? No, ma'am. What, I mentally exclaimed, in the name of common sense, does the girl expect to do to earn a dollar per week? She was taken, however, on trial, and a trial indeed it was. Almost everything she attempted to do was so poorly done that some one had to do it after her. Sweeping and dusting, making beds, &c., were only done in a *half way manner*, and the mildest hints at improvement or reform were only received with a pout or a frown—the "mistress was fault-finding and difficult"—the work was done "good enough;" besides, she "hated work so." Ah! the secret was out. This natural aversion to labor, this *fear* of the bug-bear called work!

Again, if hired girls "have the *worst* of it," may I ask, who has the better? or is it like Paddy, who took his wife "for better, for worse," but found "there was no better about it." Why, I have seen girls go into farmers' kitchens dressed out in drawing-room style—light fancy dresses, white stockings, gaiters, embroidered collar, and worked skirts! Of course *they* must not do anything to *soil* their clothes, they were *ignorant* of such work. "I speak what I do know, and testify what I have seen," when I name only *one* more instance of a girl coming in that style to assist a farmer's wife for a few days "butchering week." Of course *she* could not assist in the "meanest of all work," so it was "shirked" off on the patient, uncomplaining housewife, while *she* took the money!—wages it could not be called. Then I might add scores of instances where they were called up to breakfast day after day, and much of the time waited upon as boarders! As to the "fretting," "scolding," &c., I have yet to see the woman who could *begin* with some of them in *that* line, even, to say nothing of the lying and vulgarity. Since we are all doomed to be supported by work, and kitchen work *must be done* somehow, by somebody, why should that, one of the most important of *all*, be left to ignorant, careless, inefficient hands?

To me, there seems to be but little pecuniary difference between spoiling superfine flour, sugar, &c., in making unpalatable, indigestible food, and spoiling dress goods, fulled cloth, &c., in making unsightly, ill-shapen garments! Yet no one thinks of admitting into their houses ignorant, inexperienced females, to do mantua-making or as tailoresses, without ever having served an apprenticeship, or having cut and made the *first* garment, expecting to find materials and teach them their business as they go along, at the same time paying them full wages; and one is no more *absurd* than the other.

In view of all these things, I would suggest that some philanthropic individual, —some "HETTY BEATTY," for instance,—endow an institution (in connection with an Ag. Coll. if you please,) under the supervision of competent and efficient matrons, for the express purpose of teaching young girls,—those intending to go out to service,—the various branches of *housework*, including plain sewing, patching and darning. Then farmers' wives would have less reason to complain of patches put on zig-zag, and run down upon both sides, without so much as turning the edges under,—another species of handiwork my eyes have seen, done, too, by a girl asking eleven shillings per week. Good housekeeping is no less a trade, to be acquired by instruction and practice, than any other branch of industry. I hope to see the day when such an institution as is proposed will be established, and considered as essential to every community as a dressmaker's or tailor's shop, a public school or a college. Until some such system is consummated, no one need hope for a change for the better. Then, a person would not think of applying to our kitchen door for work, to be paid for it, till they had spent a sufficient length of time at such an institution, and could bring credentials as to their qualifications, morals, &c., any sooner than they would make application for a district school while ignorant of the common branches.

As to the threatened "strike," let it come. The sooner the better, if it is only on the *right side*. Methinks the most effectual and reasonable one would be to strike down the *pay* for work so imperfectly done. Why, I would as soon a person would take money out of my purse, as to take it for any kind of work so miserably done that I must spend my time and exhaust my patience in undoing and doing over again. A FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

* * *

THAT WHIP.

ON the principal street of a city, not long ago, our attention was arrested by the spasmodic cries of an urchin of apparently five summers, who was stamping and kicking on the sidewalk, seemingly as refractory as Barey's fiery steeds. In vain the mother attempted to urge him forward—the more she threatened and coaxed, the louder he screamed and the stronger the centrifugal forces of our little hero pulled the opposite way. A crowd soon collected around, some actuated by sympathy, others by frolic and fun, while *all* were *really* anxious to learn the cause of such an outburst of passionate grief. His mother was "a shopping," and had seen fit to deny him the purchase of a toy whip. We pitied the poor mother, for things were evidently growing somewhat dramatic. As we were ruminating how matters would turn, judge of our surprise when we saw that mother drop his hand, run into the store, and return with the whip for the angry boy. The transition from wrath to joy was as sudden as if a clap of thunder had rung out from the clear azure sky; he fairly hallooed, and made the distant hills echo with his uproarious peals of *triumphant* laughter, and as he in turn propelled that weak mother forward with an impetus far from becoming, the most painful thoughts took possession of our mind. In the yielding up of the whip, we fancied we could see the reins, with all the paraphernalia of parental government, pass into the hands of that infant of five years. True, he may, in his Gilpin-like course, ask his mother, now and then, to take a drive, but like Sardanapalus, he will rule the citadel, and perchance, in some unguarded moment of passion, he may set fire to the whole delicate superstructure of domestic happiness, perishing *himself* with all *most dear*, in the general conflagration.

Mothers! though the earth be removed, and the stars of heaven fall from their places, do not let the boy have the whip.—*Home Monthly.*

* * *

TWO WAYS OF LOOKING AT IT.

SOME parents have a tact in governing their children without apparent effort. They seldom or never punish; they rarely speak sharply, but their children always obey, and seem cheerful in obedience. Does not the following extract from "*The Teacher Teaching*," give an insight into the general method of such parents, and contain wise suggestions for all:

"There are many good people who are most anxious to teach their children aright. They are crowding their daily path with prohibitions, but seldom hold out a hand to help them, or point out to them the steps they may safely take. And while they are always teaching them that they must *not* break the Sabbath, wiser parents are teaching their children how they may keep it pleasantly and profitably. The Sabbath is to the former a day on which they *must not* play with their balls, carts, and so on; a day on which they *must not* work in the garden, *must not* read their story books. To the latter, it is a day on which they may sing hymns with mother; on which they may hear father read stories out of the Bible as long as they please; on which they may seek out answers to questions, and have longer talks with father and mother about their little trials and faults; on which they may get more comfort and help than on any other day of the week. To them it is a day of privileges; to the others, a day of prohibitions.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

LIVE, ACT, THINK.

Ye all must live and act,
Lament it as ye may;
Live! be it idly done,
Or in a nobler way;
Live, though the burden's great,
And many faint and fall;
But live! life's better "bitter-sweet"
Than have no sweets at all.

Act, and never falter
To choose the right from wrong,
Remembering toil will lessen
If borne with cheerful song;
Act, that each moment's working
Wins a "well done" from on high;
For the sands of time are golden,
And they onward swiftly fly.

Think not life is destiny,
Or by chance comes peace and joy;
That "life is what we make it,"
Is a truth without alloy.
One of old has said that "patience
Is the exercise of saints;"
Then be patient—strong in faith—
Not the crown to him who faints.

Life may be an Eden,
Or a barren, desert plain;
As ye will, and act, and think,
So the end ye all shall gain.
Ever pray, with faith unceasing,
Trusting in our Father's love;
If life's battle is fought bravely,
Peace and rest ye'll find above.

Mansfield, Pa., 1861. VICTORIA.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

PENCIL NOTES IN THE SHADE.

BY GEORGE W. BUNGAY.

THE heat is oppressive—the air seems to be changed into invisible fire, and nature droops and faints under the canopy of flame. Groups of sheep lie panting in the shade of a friendly tree. It is a pity they cannot throw off their woolen jackets and put on nankeens for summer wear. Beyond them a drove of swine are taken a sitz bath in a mire-hole or mud-pond. Hogs, in their domesticated state, are not creatures of the best taste. They prefer a suit of mire, that will keep them cool and comfortable, to the cleanest cuticle. Hogs and indolent men are much alike,—they live on the earnings of others,—they grunt and grow fat without work,—they put their noses into their neighbors' troughs, and when fortune sends them good dishes they are sure to put their feet into them; at last the butcher-knife saves them from fits of apoplexy, and in the language of BYRON,

"Living Greece is living grease no more."

Under the shadow of the elms, the quiet cows are chewing the cud. They are very serious, and one is red in the face. I cannot conjecture the subject of their thoughts. It is possible they think this hot weather will burn their bread in its oven and spoil their fare for the winter, or they may be inclined to believe that the low price of butter and cheese may induce the farmer to make beef of them, and they are ruminating over the dangers that threaten their prospective happiness. Permit me here to say, in parenthesis, that the cow has been scandalized by those who declare she is a homely, awkward animal. The Grecians and Egyptians used to compare the radiant eyes of their beautiful daughters to the eyes of a cow, and all must admit that the mild, clear, full, round eyes of the cow, are surpassingly beautiful. As for the movements of the cow, in my judgment they are easy, uniform, and absolutely free from unpleasant angularities. A cow moves in the meadow as gracefully as a belle moves in a ball-room.

The farmers have made hay while the sun shone, and many of them have stowed it away in stacks and barns, but there are acres and acres of uncut grass, and sun-burnt men with scythes and mowing machines are moving the green sea and leaving billows of grass behind them—others are scattering the mown grass to the winds—others still are pitching up the hay, adding heap to heap; piling Alp upon Alp. In olden time the heathen used to sacrifice horses to the sun,—and we Christians make a similar sacrifice, though with different motives. Statistics furnish us with the fact that the farmers supply the greatest number of victims to insanity. They are men whose habits and character will not suffer in contrast with any other class of men. They have the advantage of exercise in the open air—they eat plain and substantial food—they drink pure water—they keep good hours—they are temperate and regular in their habits. Why then do so many become insane? Undoubtedly this calamity is due to the practice of overwork and exposure to the sun in summer. There goes a tall, well-proportioned man, fifty years of age. He has made himself prematurely old by hard labor; but there is a quarter of a century of good life in him yet, and he has recuperative power enough to redeem the health and strength belonging to mature manhood; but he, though by no means avaricious nor ambitious to become wealthy, cannot resist the temptation to work hard. He saddles his horse, and then, instead of riding, walks all over the meadow. He notices a dilapidated fence, and bends himself to the task of repairing it. He notices loose hay strewn over the meadow, and rakes it up under the sun, although his physician has requested him to remain at home—for he is an invalid, and scarcely expected to live through the night sixty hours ago. He represents a class of men whose habits of industry lead them to excessive labor. I hope his wife and daughter will prevail upon him not to exhaust the resources of his strength so needlessly.

I am writing by the open window of a farm house, which commands a view of the Cherry Valley Mountains. Before I look at them through the telescope of the pen, I will glance at the parties at my elbow—a mother and a daughter. The mother is in the meridian of womanhood; a few threads of silver have mixed with her fine brown hair, but her face is quite young, and she moves about with the celerity of a girl of sixteen. There is no kind of housework she cannot do, and do in the best manner. Just look at her snow-white bread, her blushing rolls of butter, her delicious cakes of cheese, and luxurious pies and cakes, and her coffee is richer than wine. I scarcely dare trust myself in a sketch of the daughter, for fear my pen should be governed more by impulse than judgment. She is eighteen years of age—tall, graceful, quiet, dignified, and proud. With no advantages beyond those afforded by our common schools, her language and pronunciation are as pure as the speech of any graduate in the highest seminaries, and her manners would be a credit to the queens of the Fifth Avenue. She is personally handsome, her fine head being crowned with soft auburn hair, and her finely chiseled features are lighted by a pair of luminous brown eyes. Her "perfect lips" are the frame of a set of even and snow-white teeth. She is a "golden lily," and I must leave her in the "garden of girls." Of course she is a pet in the family—a sunbeam in the house—and the hope of the household.

Now for the view of the surrounding country,—Look with me from this window. Look over the rose bush that leans against the window frame. Look beyond the tall poplars that pencil their shadows upon the ground. Look beyond the garden, the orchard, the meadows, right up to the mountains. There they lie in quiet grandeur under the hot sky. It seems but a step from those green footstools to the overarching heavens. These mountains frequently arrest the clouds in their flight and baptize the valleys with showers of rain. They hold the springs that supply the streams which flow through the lowlands. They are a reservoir in the time of drouth,—they supply stone and timber for building purposes,—they add a hundred fold to the weird and wonderful beauty of the scenery, and lift the heart of the beholder "from Nature up to Nature's God." In the winter season they seem like giants sleeping in their shrouds.

Hark, the drum beats and the fife screams. There are well dressed young women walking leisurely down to the "Corners," and hale young men are mustering in front of the tavern, with guns on their shoulders. It is the first meeting of the Home Guard, and quite a number of the sturdy yeomanry have convened to drill and to witness the maneuver of these volunteers. Captain W. calls them into line and they march to the church yard (not the burying ground.) There is a tall old bachelor in his shirt sleeves and straw hat,—he is more than six feet in his stockings, and manipulates with a stick instead of a gun. He has plenty of grit and would make a good soldier. Next to him stands another tall man—he is older, being upwards of fifty, and anxious to mount his gray and ride to Washington. He told me, with tears in his eyes, that he deemed it a Christian duty to fight for his country. There is a manufacturer who has taken great pains to organize this company; his foreman looks well in the military suit of gray. Quite a number of lads are on hand and show a readiness in their drill which proves that a little discipline will "soon lick them into shape." An old soldier takes a musket in front of the volunteers, to show them "how battles are lost and won." The music is good and "defies much improvement." Next week there will be another meeting, then measures will be taken to get up a cheap uniform and a banner. Would it not be a good idea to form Home Guards in every part of the loyal States? Such organization would check the treason of home traitors,—would prepare men to take the places of those who fall in battle,—and the moral effect would be good at home and abroad. England will be inclined to mind her own business, when she understands that we are a nation of soldiers,—that every house is an arsenal and every man a hero,—that we have five millions of men under drill who are ready at a moment's warning to respond to the call of their country.

* * *

TIME, THE DESTROYER.

FANCY what we should have had around us now, if, instead of quarreling and fighting over their work, the nations had aided each other in their work, or if even in their conquests, instead of effacing the memorials of those they succeeded and subdued, they had guarded the spoils of their victories. Fancy what Europe would be now if the delicate statues and temples of the Greeks—if the broad roads and massive walls of the Romans—if the noble and pathetic architecture of the middle ages had not been ground to dust by mere human rage. You talk of the scythe of time, and the tooth of time. I tell you that time is scytheless and toothless; it is we who gnaw like the worm; we who smite like the scythe. It is ourselves who abolish—ourselves who consume,—we are the mildew and the flames, and the soul of man is to its own work as the moth that frets when it cannot fly, and as the hidden flame that blasts where it cannot illume. All these lost treasures of human intellect have been wholly destroyed by human industry of destruction; the marble would have stood its two thousand years as well in the polished statue as in the Parian cliff; but we men have ground it to powder, and mixed it with our own ashes. The walls and the ways would have stood—it is we who have not left one stone upon another, and restored its pathlessness to the desert; the great cathedrals of old religion would have stood—it is we who have dashed down the carved work with axes and hammers, and bid the mountain-grass bloom upon the pavement, and the sea-winds chant in the galleries.—*Ruskin.*

* * *

"GIVE ME A MOTIVE."—"Give me a motive," said a young and enthusiastic girl to a minister of Christ, and "I can do anything." Here is the true secret of success in all enterprises. Motive power has conquered the world. It is the motive which inspires the heart with courage; which infuses the will with energy; which nerves the hand to action. The motive which each sets before him when he goes forth upon the journey of life, usually decides his future course. The miser heaping up his shining piles; the painstaking student, who sees honor and fame in the distant future, with shadowy fingers beckoning him on; these have both a motive. So the conqueror, wading through a crimson tide to reach the laurel crown of martial glory, has a motive. Selfish, no doubt! But most of the world's toilers have the taint of selfishness upon their motives.

* * *

TO LET.—There are more things "to let" than are placarded. Hearts are to let every day; old hearts, young hearts, stricken hearts—all empty—all to let.

There are heads to let; to any new thing, to isms, ologies and ists; heads without a tenant.

There are hands to let. Hands plump and fair; hands lean and brown. Those to love, these to labor; these for rags, and those for rings.

There are consciences to let; elastic, accommodating, caoutchouc; at five per cent. a month, sixty per cent. a year. To let on bond and mortgage, and a pound of flesh.

And so it goes, from soda to souls; almost everything to let; almost everything with its price; everything in the market but griefs. *They* are never quoted, never at a premium, never "to let."

* * *

VALUE OF KNOWLEDGE.—One of the most agreeable consequences of knowledge is the respect and importance which it communicates to old age. Men rise in character often as they increase in years; they are venerable from what they have acquired, and pleasing from what they can impart.

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IT is only the fool who is pleased with himself; no wise man is good enough for his own satisfaction.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

"FEAR NOT, FOR I AM WITH THEE."

BY ROSELIA H. STRICKLAND.

FEAR NOT! though wild the winds and waves around thee,
Thy frail bark toss'd upon the sea of Life;
Though the tumultuous waters fast surround thee,
Fear not, for I am with thee in the strife!

Fear not, though friends long trusted now betray thee—
Though where thou seekest aid thou findest scorn;
Let not unkindness nor disdain dismay thee,
For I am with thee till new hope be born.

Fear not! the world these many years of sorrow
Hath from each night awoke to sunlit day;
And look *thou* forward to a happier morrow,
For I am with thee, and will be alway.

Fear not! though cruel hands the ties dissever
Which bound thy heart to earthly joy and love;
Thy trials fit thee for that vast forever,
Where thou shalt reign with Me in Heaven above.

Fear not! though often thy o'erwearied spirit
Is bent and worn by fierce temptation's blast;
Forget thou not the crown thou dost inherit,
For I am with thee, even to the last!
Hastings, N. Y., 1861.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

"YE HAVE DONE IT UNTO ME."

How touching the love CHRIST shows for his disciples, when He declares Himself so identified with them that whatever is done unto them is done also unto Him. Nor is it the rich or great—those whom the world are apt to honor—of whom He speaks. He who "knew what was in man," knew the tendency to disregard the claims of the less favored ones. He therefore expressly declares, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto *one of the least* of these, ye have done it unto me." Did Christians realize this truth in all its comforting and practical reality, how much more love, and tenderness, and forbearance, would mark their intercourse with each other. Is the Christian guided by unkindness? So is the SAVIOR. Is his reputation trampled upon, and his influence for good lessened?—his Master is dishonored! Is the needy, suffering disciple, neglected or treated with scorn? CHRIST is slighted—CHRIST suffers with him. Oh, how many a sorrow that appeals in vain for human sympathy, moves the heart of the Son of GOD!

And might we not expect to see in the followers of such a Master much of that love that "seeketh not her own?" Should they not be reluctant to pain another's heart, slow to speak of another's failings, and quick to feel a brother's woes? And when tempted to speak reproachfully of one who bears the Christian name, or lightly and scornfully of those to whom GOD has appointed a lowly lot in life, it is well to remember *who it is* that said "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Sherburne, N. Y., 1861. LINA LEE.

* * *

THE TEARS OF REPENTANCE.—Repentance, this costly bath of tears for all men who have no Savior, is a bath of joy, sorrow, and tears mingled; for if we Christians weep over our sins, we weep not only because we have rejected so great love, but do not our tears also flow from our faith and love? Yes the tears of penitence, in the eye of the Christian, are rain drops, which form, in the Sun of Righteousness, the rainbow of peace. If one trembles, it is a trembling for joy; the sand beneath our feet becomes a rock; night and twilight, day; a foreign land, our home; the fetters of duty are changed into a joyful message; the law giver, into a Savior and Redeemer; earth, into heaven. O! tell me, is there indeed a greater birthday than the day of conversion, when from the seed of the Divine Word received in faith through the Holy Spirit, a Christian man is born?

* * *

INFLUENCE OF FAMILY WORSHIP.—The daily regular and solemn reading of God's holy word, by a parent before his children, is one of the most powerful agencies of a Christian life. We are prone to undervalue this cause. It is a constant dropping, but it wears its mark into the rock. A family thus trained cannot be ignorant of the Word. The whole Scriptures come repeatedly before the mind. The most heedless child must observe and retain some portion of the sacred oracles; the most forgetful must treasure up some passages of life. No one part of juvenile education is more important. Between families thus instructed, and those where the Bible is not read, the contrast is striking. To deny such a source of influence to the youthful mind, is an injustice, at the thought of which a professor of Christianity may well tremble.

* * *

AFFLICTION A TEST OF CHARACTER.—Suppose we perceive a number of children playing together in the street, we could not, without previous knowledge, determine who are their parents, or where are their homes. But let one of them receive an injury, or get into any trouble, and we learn who are his parents, for he immediately runs to them for relief. Thus it is with the Christian and the man of the world. While we observe them together, pursuing the same employments, and placed in the same circumstances, we may not be able at once to distinguish them. But let afflictions come upon them, and we are no longer at a loss; the man of the world seeks relief in earthly comforts, while the Christian flies to his heavenly Father, his refuge and support in the day of trouble.—*Payson.*

* * *

THESE chaste affections, these throbbings of heart, these thirstings of souls for the loved and absent, at once assure us that true love does not readily die—that God has made the ties which bind human hearts together—that celestial Love and infinite Goodness have ordained a reunion of the good and true as in part the best realization of heaven. "Thou hast redeemed us by thy blood out of every nation and people and tongue"—the joy of praise to Christ, and of mutual recognition as fellow saints.

* * *

THE CAMELS AND THE NEEDLE'S EYE.—Often as the motley reflexes of my experience move in long processions of manifold groups before me, the distinguished and world-honored company of Christian mammonists appear, to the eye of my imagination, as a drove of camels heavily laden, yet all at full speed, and each in the confident expectation of passing through the eye of the needle, without stop or halt, both beasts and baggage.—*Coleridge.*

* * *

OF all mercies, pardoning mercy is the most sweetening mercy. It is a mercy that makes all other mercies look like mercies, and taste like mercies, and work like mercies. He who has it, cannot be miserable; he who wants it, cannot be happy.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

"Heaven's blessings upon it? Its stars never shone
With a luster so pure and so warm;
Like a beacon's calm ray, pointing out the safe way,
They gleam through this gathering storm.
Their heart cheering light led our fathers aright
Through all the dark perils they knew;
The same magic glow shall lead us to the foe,
And guide us to Victory, too!"

ROCHESTER, N. Y., AUGUST 31, 1861.

THE WAR'S PROGRESS.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

Extracts from the Southern Press.

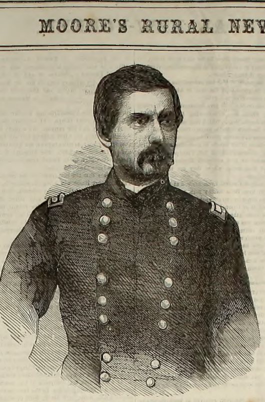
War Policy of the South to be Changed.—The New Orleans *Delta*, of Aug. 10th, which we have just received, states the war policy of the South is now to undergo a radical change. Arguing that "their line of action has hitherto been defensive; that the object was to convince the civilized world that all it asked, all the people of the Confederate States required it to demand, was the right to be let alone, to live at peace, free from oppression from invasion, from threats and schemes of vengeance or conquest from the North," it remarks, "but the ends which a defensive policy was designed to accomplish, if we are not mistaken, are now attained. Enough has been done to vindicate the purity of motive which inspires the South, and to exhibit the rage for conquest and thirst for blood which actuate the North in the present war. Enough has been done to give the North time to pause and reflect on the threshold, and beyond the threshold, and open the door to a just settlement of the controversy, without forcing us to the necessity of undertaking to conquer a peace as peace only can be conquered when one nation wantonly persists in warring upon another nation. The action of the Federal Congress now in session, proves that the Northern people have not yet drank sufficiently of the bloody chalice. Since that body has indorsed Lincoln's military usurpations, and proclaimed a war of extermination, or worse than extermination, against the South, no medicine but the bitterest dregs of that cup can cure the North of its insane thoughts and horrid purposes of hostility. Its people should be made to feel, and feel sharply, at least a portion of the desolation they would inflict on us. We should follow the power that has been let loose for our destruction to its own fastness, and there strangle it till it is prostrate and helpless in our grasp. No Potomac border, no invisible boundary line, no false neutrality of territory, should stay the energy of our arms directed to the speedy conquest of peace. Where the first blow will be struck, and how it will be struck, it is not for a Southern journal at this moment to ask or to answer. That is a matter which we can well afford to leave to the vigilance and sagacity of our Government and its Generals. Two Confederate armies are already in Missouri; another may shortly be in Maryland, with the Federal Government a fugitive before it, seeking safety in Pennsylvania. But we need not anticipate events or special points of strategy. The public may well be content to remain in doubt, if the enemy is kept in perplexity."

A Magnificent Programme.—The *Richmond Dispatch* of the 10th argues against the policy of taking Washington, and urges the movement on Philadelphia. We quote:

Determined to wage this war with proper vigor, the Secretary of War has urged the raising of five hundred thousand men at once. Responding to the call, our people will eagerly rush to arms at once, and by the 15th of September, at latest, an army of one hundred and twenty-five thousand men could be concentrated upon the Maryland border, leaving fifty thousand men to guard the approach to Richmond, and appropriate forces to defend Acquia Creek, Norfolk, and all other needed points. Our column could then take up its march, not for Washington, but for Philadelphia. Let us strike at the fountain head, the vast receptacles of Northern stores, and the workshops from which they fit out their armies. It would be far easier for us to take Philadelphia than to capture Washington. Even if we should give them notice of our intention to pursue this course, they would not believe us, and our army would be far on its road through Pennsylvania before the wise noodles in Washington would wake to the reality of our movement. They think they are safe so long as Washington remains in their power. Even the giant intellect of McClellan will not save them. The combined genius of their acknowledged best Generals, Scott, Mansfield, and McDowell, could not withstand the blighting touch of Southern prowess. Let us not talk of taking their fortified places any longer. Leave Washington, like Fortress Monroe, Fort Pickens, Fort McHenry, Tortugas, and other places, for after consideration.

Let the war be carried into Africa; let the enemy be made to feel the blasting, desolating effects of our conquering arms. What a shaking and quaking would there be in the high place around the Court, when we thus would step in between their dainty lordships and their gracious followers of the North. Menaced from all sides—for Maryland would at once rise—there could be no escape, except by sea; and it does seem to us that batteries sufficient to command the Potomac might ere that be located somewhere. We go in for a scheme that will crush out this vile brood, root and branch. With Philadelphia in our hands, we should have something with which to help pay the expenses of war; and it behooves us to procure some of the needful, as Abraham and his sagacious friends have determined to make us pay their war debt of six hundred millions!

If we take Washington, we gain a moral victory—not a substantial one; and we have still the onward movement to take. There we shall find nothing but cumbersome masses of stone, which can be of no service to us. In Philadelphia we shall find vast stores of everything, and the material and workshops with which to supply our armies in future. Then our revenge would not be sweet enough unless we could tread with martial step through the broad streets of New York, quarter in the palatial mansions of the merchant princes, who have rioted in dreams upon the possessions of the to-be-conquered Southerners. New York must be humiliated beyond all other cities, for she has grown fat and insolent upon the wealth which the South has poured into her lap.



MAJOR-GENERAL GEORGE B. McCLELLAN.

Reign of Terror in New Orleans.—The *Delta* narrates the arrest and imprisonment of Wm. J. Dewey, a prominent merchant of that city, because of the contents of a letter written by him to a cousin in New York city, which epistle was intercepted and opened by the "Military Committee of Memphis, Tennessee." Mr. Dewey had been engaged in business for twenty-six years with the New Orleans community, but as everything was wrecked he asks advice and assistance from his Northern relative. We make a few extracts, as showing the condition of affairs:

"F. A. Crocker, Esq.—My Dear Sir:—The present awful state of affairs in our once happy country is my excuse for addressing you at this time: my object, to ask your full and candid opinion with regard to the duration of the war, and what you think will be its effects upon business with you. At present, my business is completely destroyed—there is no other branch that I can engage in, and what little means I have will soon be exhausted. My business was never so good as it had been up to April last. I had (and have) an active partner, whose faithful services of many years I was glad to reward by giving him an interest. Our relations everywhere were being extended; and the struggles which I had been making for twenty years with fortune, seemed about to be crowned with success—but you know the disastrous change.

My object is to ask of you if you think there is any chance of my getting a living in New York, or getting any employment suited to my capabilities. I think I may say, without self-conceit, that I am a first rate book keeper, and would be a useful person in any business house, as cashier or manager. I may not have the activity which I had fifteen years ago, being now forty-nine years of age, but I think I could, in a very short time, make myself useful to any house that might require my services.

It seems to me that in almost any event this place is fatally injured. Even in case of a peace, by a separation of the North and South, it seems to me that we shall have a slavery despotism here that none but slaveholders can live under. Added to this, who will trust the South when repudiation seems to be indelibly written upon its policy? Free discussion is destroyed, and if the South ever gains its independence, (as it is called here,) all free literature must be abolished, and that only admitted which justifies and recommends the "peculiar institution." If this gigantic insurrection is overcome, still what becomes of the South? It suffers the same loss of reputation that South Carolina did in nullification times, and a similar stigma rests upon it, which stigma cannot be removed until another generation, who shall be loyal to the United States Government, shall come upon the stage. What is to become of these thousands of restless politicians; these recreant officers, who are in arms against the Government which gave them all the honor they ever had? The whole South will be the resort of discontented spirits. There will be no security for life and property, and thousands of disappointed and discomfited soldiers and civilians will be thrown back here upon us, with their morals corrupted by associations in camp and amidst scenes of bloodshed, and this city, which was never very orderly, will be full of riot and crime. Whatever may be the result of this contest, it appears to me that the South loses everything."

Major-General McClellan.

In the issue of the Rural for June 15th, while making pen-and-ink sketches of the more important army officers which the National difficulties had thrown to the surface, we remarked that time alone could determine whether "the trial would bring out its controlling genius,—a Washington, a Napoleon, a Jackson, a Garibaldi, or a second Scott,"—and we take great pleasure in presenting the portrait of the man who has already been dignified as the American Napoleon,—Major General George B. McClellan.

Our hero was born in Philadelphia, December 3d, 1826. His father was a distinguished surgeon. At sixteen, young McClellan entered West Point, and graduated in the class of 1846, a second lieutenant of engineers. Until the Mexican war, he had no opportunity of distinguishing himself, and then for gallant and meritorious conduct in the battles of Contreras and Cherubusco, he was brevetted first lieutenant. For his gallant conduct at the battle of Molino del Rey, on September 8th, 1847, he was offered a brevet captaincy, which he declined, but subsequently was advanced for like gallantry displayed in the battle of Chepultepec, and received the command of a company of sappers, miners, and pontoniers, in May, 1848.

At the close of the Mexican war he returned to West Point, where he remained on duty with the sappers and miners until 1851. During this time he introduced the bayonet exercise into the army, and translated and adapted a manual which has since become a text book for the service. During the summer and fall of 1851, he superintended the construction of Fort Delaware, and in the succeeding spring was assigned to duty in the expedition for the exploration of the Red River. Thence he was ordered to Texas as senior engineer on the staff of Gen. Persifer F. Smith, and was engaged for some months in surveying the rivers and harbors of that State. In 1853 he was ordered to the Pacific coast, in command of the western division of the survey of the North Pacific Railroad route. He returned to the east in 1854, on duty connected with the Pacific survey, and was engaged also in secret service to the West Indies. The next year he received a commission in the first regiment of cavalry, and was appointed a member of the commission which went to the war in the Crimea and in Northern Russia. Major McClellan's report on the "*Organization of European Armies, and the Operations of the War*"—a quarto volume, embodying the result of his observations in the Crimea—greatly enhanced his reputation as a scientific soldier.

In January, 1857, weary of inaction, he resigned his position in the army to become vice-president and engineer of the Illinois Central Railroad, which post he held for three years, when he was offered and accepted the presidency of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, of which he was also general superintendent. When our domestic troubles assumed formidable dimensions, Major McClellan's services were at once called into requisition. He was offered and accepted the command of the Ohio forces. On May 14th, he received a commission as major general in the United States army, and assumed command of the Department of Ohio, which comprised all the States of Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, and that part of Virginia lying north of the Great Kanawha River and west of Green Briar River and the Maryland line, with so much of Pennsylvania as lies west of a line drawn from the Maryland line to the north-east corner of McKean county.

It is not necessary that we should review his career in connection with the Ohio Department. Suffice it to say that in a few weeks he put an end to secession in Western Virginia, had routed and cut up the army of rebels with a celerity of movement, a brilliancy of action and effectiveness of execution, that indorsed him as "the right man in the right place." His proclamations to the soldiers of the "Army of the West," as exhibiting the character of their young General, will bear re-publication:

Soldiers of the Army of the West:

You are here to support the government of your country, and to protect the lives and liberties of your brethren, theatened by a rebellious and traitorous foe. No higher or nobler duty could devolve on you; and I expect you to bring to its performance the highest and noblest qualities of soldiers—discipline, courage, and mercy. I call upon all officers, of every grade, to enforce the highest discipline, and I know that those of all grades, privates and officers, will display in battle cool heroic courage, and will know how to show mercy to a disarmed enemy. Bear in mind that you are in the country of friends, not of enemies—that you are here to protect, not to destroy. Take nothing, destroy little, unless you are ordered to do so by your general officers. Remember that I have pledged my word to the people of Western Virginia that their rights in person and property shall be respected. I ask every one of you to make good this promise in the broadest sense. We have come here to save, not to upturn.

I do not appeal to fear of punishment, but to your appreciation of the sacredness of the cause in which we are engaged. Carry into battle the conviction that you are right, and that God is on your side. Your enemies have violated every moral law. Neither God nor man can sustain them. They have, without cause, rebelled against a mild and paternal government. They have seized upon public and private property. They have outraged the persons of Northern men, merely because they came from the North; and of Southern Union men, merely because they loved the Union. They have placed themselves beneath contempt. Unless they can retrieve some honor on the field of battle, you will pursue a different course. You will be honest, brave, and merciful. You will respect the right of private opinion. You will punish no man for opinion's sake.

Show to the world that you differ from our enemies in these points of honor, honesty, and respect for private opinion, and that we inaugurate no reign of terror where we go.

Soldiers, I have heard that there was danger here. I have come to place myself at your head and share it with you. I fear now but one thing, that you will not find foemen worthy of your steel. I know that I can rely upon you.

Maj. Gen. Geo. B. McClellan,
Commanding.

Headquarters Army of Occupation,
Beverly, July 19.

Soldiers of the Army of the West:

I am more than satisfied with you. You have annihilated two armies, commanded by excellent and experienced soldiers, intrenched in mountain fastnesses, and fortified at their leisure. You have taken five guns, twelve colors, fifteen hundred stand of arms, one thousand prisoners, including more than forty officers.

One of the second commanders of the rebels is a prisoner. The other lost his life on the field of battle. You have killed more than 280 of the enemy, who has lost all his baggage and camp equipage. All this has been accomplished with the loss of twenty brave men killed and sixty wounded on your part. You have proved that Union men who fight for the preservation of our Government, are more than a match for our misguided and erring brothers. More than this, you showed mercy to the vanquished. You have made long and arduous marches with insufficient food, frequently exposed to the inclemency of the weather.

I have not hesitated to demand this of you, feeling that I could rely on your endurance, patriotism, and courage. In the future I may have still greater demands to make upon you and still greater sacrifices for you to offer. It shall be my care to provide for you to the extent of my ability, but I know now that by your valor and endurance you will accomplish all that is asked. Soldiers, I have confidence in you, and I trust you have learned to confide in me. Remember that discipline and subordination are qualities of equal value with courage. I am proud to say that you have gained the highest reward that American troops can receive—the thanks of Congress, and the applause of your fellow citizens.

G. B. McClellan, Major General.

The disaster to the Federal Army before Manassas soon followed, and threw its cloud over the triumphs in the Western portion of the "Old Dominion." When our troops came back to Washington, weary, dispirited, defeated, the question arose:—"Who will gather together the fragments, and complete the work of re-organization and re-construction?" It was evident that there had been a looseness of discipline, a laxity of regulation, and some one must be put in charge who, while making each soldier feel the strictness of military life and the necessity for self-denial, would inspire to lofty heroism all with whom he came in contact. All eyes turned to the young hero, and he came to bring regularity and precision out of the chaos which prevailed. With what measure of success his efforts met, may be inferred from a single paragraph in the correspondence of the N. Y. *Baptist Examiner*. Under the caption, "A week of McClellan," that journal said:—"As to the army, it is hardly the same body of men who returned with disordered ranks and broken spirits from before the masked batteries of 'Bloody Run.' Better one week of McClellan, than a whole year of the red-tape officials who preceded him. The rapidity with which he has restored good order, strict discipline, and confidence, is almost miraculous. We are almost willing to look upon our repulse as a blessing in disguise, while considering this portion of its consequences. Never was the army in better spirits, or so anxious to be brought once more face to face with its rebel opponents. When or where that opportunity will be given, we can only conjecture. We in Washington are as much in the dark as are you in New York, as to what may be occurring on the southern bank of the Potomac. No more strolling crowds of new-fledged lieutenants retail the orders of the day, 'in strict confidence,' to admiring and loose-tongued intimates."

One evening quite recently the newspaper reporters in and about Washington received the following epistle:

"Washington, August 5.

"Gen. McClellan's compliments to the gentlemen of the Press, and he would be pleased to see them at headquarters, corner of Nineteenth street and Pennsylvania Avenue, at 9 o'clock this evening."

Of course such an invitation could not well be declined, and one whose politeness would not permit him to absent himself on such an occasion thus describes "the Man of our hope":

"A writer would err in describing Gen. McClellan if he should adopt Sterne's method of presenting the lady in 'Tristram Shandy'—that of leaving a blank page for each one to impress with the portrait of his own ideal, for the young commander does not in the least fulfill the conditions of a conventional military hero. Those who attended the Press reception found themselves in an ante-room, where a soldier stood before them, so rough in fatigue dress, and in every way so unassuming that they of course supposed him to be the General's orderly in waiting. But when, to their surprise, he was announced as the officer they had come to see, he must have half repented of his invitation, since a man was never more instantly beset with a more curiously interested throng. He had been riding for hours, on a reconnoissance up the Potomac, and had just returned, covered with perspiration and dust.

So the party found themselves conferring with an officer wearing a loose blue fatigue coat, and with no insignia of his rank; a man hardly up to the medium height, but very muscular—almost thick-set—so strong and wiry that you would trust him to bend a gun-barrel across his knee, or pass forty-eight hours without food or sleep, and then win a battle. Dark brown hair and moustache were scarcely in contrast with the complexion of his face, tanned by a two months' exposure to sun and storm. As for his eyes, they are said to be of that impassive gray which of late has been deemed the special prerogative of men of arms and "destiny." All were struck with his unimposing and youthful appearance, agreeing that the thirty-four years claimed for him in the army record seemed to many by half-a-dozen.

Before the general had spoken twenty words he quite won the hearts of his guests—men familiar with all sorts of pretenders and a few real heroes—by the straightforward common sense with which he gave their profession its due, and desired its co-operation in the labors before him. In the West, he said, a few newspaper correspondents had been his campaign companions; they had conformed to his notions, and he had found no cause to regret their acquaintance. The gentlemen present knew, much better than himself, what should be published and what not. He would confide the whole matter of transmitting news to their own hands, and hoped they would take some such action as would be an example for adoption elsewhere. As for the actual campaign, he didn't want a dozen civilians passing through the lines, and running into cross-fires without orders or organization. On the whole, he thought he might take a few correspondents of leading newspapers on his staff, fit them out respectably, and consider them part of the regular service."

Among the soldiers Gen. McClellan is one of the least pretentious mortals. He generally wears the simple blouse of the riflemen, with not even the starred shoulder-straps to denote his rank—a man who is indefatigable in his pursuit and attack of the enemy, and equally untiring in his efforts to secure the utmost comfort of his men, compatible with the circumstances of a soldier's life. When his line is on the march, he is ever among the men, with a kind and cheering word for every company; a pleasant look, or kind salute, or hearty grasp of the hand for every officer or private with whom he is brought on speaking terms by business; and in a fight he is always at the front of the column, in the thickest of the danger, encouraging his soldiers by cheering word and fearless deed. He takes soldiers' fare with the rest, asking no better food and no more luxurious bed than the newest recruited private under his command. If he sees a man without proper shoes or clothing, he has that man, with his captain, sent to his quarters, where the man is served with the garments he needs, and the captain receives a reprimand that leads him to look more closely after the comfort of his men in future.

The task before McClellan is one which will put his Generalship to the severest test. The misfortunes of others have made it easier by proving its magnitude and showing some ways, at least, in which it can *not* be done. We trust he will discover how to do it. This thing is certain, and this only as yet—that he has thus far been more successful than any other officer who has been vested with important command in this department, in impressing those who have met him with a sense of his energy, prudence, and presistent genius. We have so long and sadly felt the want of a leader that we are willing to believe in our "Young General," and may be pardoned for making much of him.

Gen. Butler on Contrabands.

Early the present month Gen. Butler, then in command of Fortress Monroe, addressed a letter to the Secretary of War, asking for information relative to the disposition of the slaves then flocking to his quarters and claiming his protection. We have delayed its publication in order to present the query and the response of Secretary Cameron together, and now lay both before our readers. Both are well worthy of an attentive perusal:

Headquarters Department of Virginia,
Fortress Monroe, July 30, 1861.

Hon. Simon Cameron, Secretary of War—*Sir:* By an order received on the morning of the 26th of July, from Major-General Dix, by a telegraphic order from Lieut.-Gen. Scott, I was commanded to forward, of the troops of this department, four regiments and a half, including Col. Baker's California regiment, to Washington via Baltimore. This order reached me at 2 o'clock A. M., by a special boat from Baltimore. Believing that it emanated because of some pressing exigency for the defence of Washington, I issued my orders before daybreak for the embarkation of the troops, sending those who were among the very best regiments I had. In the course of the following day they were all embarked for Baltimore, with the exception of some 400, for whom I had not transportation, although I had all the transport force in the hands of the Quartermaster here, to aid the Bay line of steamers, which, by the same order from the Lieutenant-General, was directed to furnish transportation.

Up to and at the time of the order, I had been preparing for an advance movement by which I hoped to cripple the resources of the enemy at Yorktown, and especially by seizing a large quantity of negroes who were being pressed into their service in building the entrenchments there. I had five days previously been enabled to mount for the first time the first company of Light Artillery, which I had been empowered to raise, and they had but a single rifled cannon—an iron six-pounder. Of course everything must and did yield to the supposed exigency and the orders. This ordering away the troops from this department, while it weakened the posts at Newport News, necessitated the withdrawal of the troops from Hampton, where I was then throwing up intrenched works to enable me to hold the town with a small force, while I advanced up York or James river. In the village of Hampton there were a large number of negroes, composed in a great measure of women and children of the men who had fled thither within my lines for protection, who had escaped from marauding parties of rebels, who had been gathering up able bodied blacks to aid them in constructing their batteries on the James and York rivers. I had employed the men in Hampton in throwing up intrenchments, and they were working zealously and efficiently at that duty, saving our soldiers from that labor under the gleam of the mid-day sun. The women were earning substantially their own subsistence in washing, marketing, and taking care of the clothes of the soldiers, and rations were being served out to the men who worked for the support of their children.

But by the evacuation of Hampton, rendered necessary by the withdrawal of our troops, leaving me scarcely 5,000 men outside the Fort, including the force at Newport News, all these black people were obliged to break up their homes at Hampton, fleeing across the creek within my lines for protection and support. Indeed, it was a most distressing sight to see these poor creatures, who had trusted to the protection of the arms of the United States, and who aided the troops of the United States in their enterprise, to be thus obliged to flee from their homes and the homes of their masters, who had deserted them, and become fugitives from fear of the return of the rebel soldiery, who had threatened to shoot the men who had wrought for us, and to carry off the women, who had served us, to a worse than Egyptian bondage. I have therefore now within the Peninsula, this side of Hampton Creek, 900 negroes, 300 of whom are able bodied men, 30 of whom are substantially past hard labor, 175 women, 225 children under the age of 10 years, and 170 between 10 and 18 years, and more coming in. The questions which this state of facts present are very embarrassing.

First—What shall be done with them? and Second, what is their state of condition?

Upon these questions I desire the instructions of the Department.

The first question, however, may perhaps be answered by considering the last. Are these men, women and children slaves? Are they free? Is their condition that of men, women and children, or of property, or is it a mixed relation? What their *status* was under the constitution and laws we all know. What has been the effect of rebellion and a state of war upon that *status?* When I adopted the theory of treating the able-bodied negro fit to work in the trenches as property liable to be used in aid of rebellion, and so contraband of war, that condition of things was in so far met as I then and still believe, on a legal and constitutional basis. But now a new series of questions arise. Passing by women, the children certainly cannot be treated on that basis; if property, they must be considered the incumbrance rather than the auxiliary of an army, and, of course, in no possible legal relation could be treated as contraband. Are they property? If they were so, they have been left by their masters and owners, deserted, thrown away, abandoned, like the wrecked vessel upon the ocean. Their former possessors and owners have causelessly, traitorously, rebelliously, and, to carry out the figure, practically abandoned them to be swallowed up by the winter storm of starvation.

If property, do they not become the property of the salvors? But we, their salvors, do not need and will not hold such property, and will assume no such ownership: has not therefore all proprietary relation ceased? Have they not become thereupon men, women, and children? No longer under ownership of any kind, the fearful relicts of fugitive masters, have they not by their masters' acts, and the state of war, assumed the condition, which we hold to be the normal one, of those made in God's image. Is not every constitutional, legal and moral requirement, as well to the runaway master as their relinquished slaves, thus answered? I confess that my own mind is compelled by this reasoning to look upon them as men and women. If not free born, yet free, manumitted, sent forth from the hand that held them, never to be reclaimed.

Of course if this reasoning thus imperfectly set forth is correct, my duty as a humane man is very plain. I should take the same care of these men, women and children, houseless, homeless and unprovided for, as I would of the same number of men, women and children who, for their attachment to the Union, had been driven or allowed to flee from the Confederate States. I should have no doubt on this question had I not seen it stated that an order had been issued by Gen. McDowell in his department substantially forbidding all fugitive slaves from coming within his lines, or being harbored there. Is that order to be enforced in all Military Departments? If so, who are to be considered fugitive slaves? Is a slave to be considered fugitive, whose master runs away and leaves him? Is it forbidden to the troops to aid or harbor within their lines the negro children who are found therein, or is the soldier, when his march has destroyed their means of subsistence, to allow them to starve because he has driven off the rebel master? Now shall the commander of a regiment or battallion sit in judgment upon the question, whether any given black man has fled from his master, or his master fled from him? Indeed, how are the free-born to distinguish? Is one any more or less a fugitive slave because he has labored on the rebel entrenchments? If he has so labored, if I understand it, he is to be harbored. By the reception of which are the rebels most to be distressed, by taking those who have wrought all their rebel masters desired, masked their battery, or those who have refused to labor and left the battery unmasked.

I have very decided opinions on the subject of this order. It does not become me to criticise it, and I write in no spirit of criticism, but simply to explain the full difficulties that surround the enforcing it. If the enforcing of that order becomes the policy of the Government, I, as a soldier, shall be bound to inforce it steadfastly, if not cheerfully, but if left to my own discretion, as you have gathered from my reasoning, I should take a widely different course from that which it indicates.

In a loyal State I would put down a servile insurrection. In a State in rebellion I would confiscate that which was used to oppose my arms, and take all that property which constituted the wealth of that State and furnished the means by which the war is prosecuted, besides being the cause of the war; and if, in so doing, it should be objected that human beings were brought to the enjoyment of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, such objection might not require much consideration.

Pardon me for addressing the Secretary of War directly upon this question, as it involves some political considerations as well as propriety of military action.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
BENJAMIN F. BUTLER.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO GEN. BUTLER.

WASHINGTON, Aug. —, 1861.

GENERAL:—The important question of the proper disposition to be made of fugitives from service in the States in insurrection against the Federal Government, to which you have again directed my attention in your letter of July 20, has received my most attentive consideration. It is the desire of the President that all existing rights in all the States be fully respected and maintained.

The war now prosecuted on the part of the Federal Government, is a war for the Union, for the preservation of all the Constitutional rights of the States and the citizens of the States in the Union; hence no question can arise as to fugitives from service within the States and Territories in which the authority of the Union is fully acknowledged.

The ordinary forms of judicial proceedings must be respected by the military and civil authorities alike for the enforcement of legal forms; but in the States wholly or in part under insurrectionary control, where the laws of the United States are so far opposed and resisted they cannot be effectually enforced, it is obvious that the rights dependent upon the execution of these laws must temporarily fail, and it is equally obvious that the rights dependent on the laws of the States within which military operations are conducted must necessarily be subordinate to the military exigencies created by the insurrection, if not wholly forfeited by the treasonable conduct of the parties claiming them.

To this the general rule of the right to service forms an exception. The act of Congress, approved Aug. 6th, 1861, declares that if persons held to service shall be employed in hostility to the United States, the right to their services shall be discharged therefrom. It follows of necessity that no claim can be recognized, by the military authority of the Union, to the services of such persons when fugitives.

A more difficult question is presented in respect to persons escaping from the service of loyal masters. It is quite apparent that the laws of the State, under which only the service of such fugitives can be claimed, must needs be wholly or almost wholly suspended, as to the remedies, by the insurrection and the military measures necessitated by it; and it is equally apparent that the substitution of military for judicial measures for the enforcement of such claims must be attended by great inconvenience, embarrassments and injuries.

Under these circumstances it seems quite clear that the substantial rights of loyal masters are still best protected by receiving such fugitives as well as fugitives from disloyal masters, into the service of the United States, and employing them under such organizations and in such occupations as circumstances may suggest or require. Of course a record should be kept showing the names and descriptions of the fugitives, the names and characters, as loyal or disloyal, of the masters, and such facts as may be necessary to a correct understanding of the circumstances of each case.

After tranquility shall have been restored upon the return of peace, Congress will properly provide for all the persons thus received into the service of the Union, and for a just compensation to loyal masters. In this way only, it would seem, can the duty and safety of the government and just rights of all be fully reconciled and harmonized.

You will therefore consider yourself instructed to govern your future action in respect to fugitives from service by the premises herein stated, and will report from time to time, and at least twice in each month, your action in the premises to this Department.

You will, however, neither authorize nor permit any interference by the troops under your command with the servants of peaceable citizens in a house or field, nor will you in any manner encourage such servants to leave the lawful service of their masters, nor will you, except in cases where the public good may seem to require it, prevent the voluntary return of any fugitive to the service from which he may have escaped.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SIMON CAMERON, Secretary of War.

Movements in the West.

BY telegraph from Cairo on the 20th, we learn that the night previous a battle occurred at Charleston, Mo., between the Federal forces, about two hundred and fifty strong, consisting of a portion of the 22d Illinois regiment, under command of Col. Dougherty, accompanied by Lieut.-Col. Rawson, of the 11th Illinois regiment, and the rebel forces, estimated at between 600 and 700, and commanded by Col. Hunter, of Jeff. Thompson's army. The Federal forces were victorious, completely routing the enemy, killing forty and taking seventeen prisoners. Loss on our side was one killed, viz: Wm. P. Sharpe, Co. A. Among the wounded are Colonel Dougherty, slightly; Lieut.-Col. Rawson, shot in shoulder, not serious.

The steamer Samuel Orr, the Evansville and Paducah mail packet, was seized by the rebels at Paducah, on the 22d, and taken up the Tennessee river. The officers and crew left her and came to Cairo in skiffs. Her cargo was valued at $20,000. It is reported that the rebels at Paducah sent to Union City for some 64-pounders, for some thousands of rebels commanded by Ketchell, who are reported to be at Benton, Mo., fortifying themselves. They have nine 24-pounders.

Capt. Noleman, with fifty mounted men, left Bird's Point about 6 o'clock on the 19th for Charleston, to join the forces under Colonel Dougherty, but failed to form a junction with them. They met a party of rebels, about one hundred strong, and gave them battle, killing twenty-eight and taking thirty-three prisoners. They also captured thirty-five horses without the loss of a man.

A force of confederates, on Sunday the 18th, seized the village of Commerce, between Cape Girardeau and Cairo, and planted a battery on the river bank to command the channel and interrupt communication between Cairo and St. Louis. As soon as intelligence of this movement reached General Fremont, he sent orders to Cape Girardeau to dispossess them. In obedience to this order five hundred men left Cape Girardeau on the 19th, went down the river to a point above Commerce, landed, attacked the enemy and drove him off. There was but little fighting, as the enemy made no attempt to stand, but retreated with his battery. He had about one hundred and fifty infantry and one hundred and fifty cavalry.

The President has authorized Hon. John S. Phelps, of Springfield, Mo., to embody the citizens and form five regiments of infantry and one of cavalry to serve under the laws of Missouri for six months. As he raised about 2,000 Home Guards two months ago at the request of Gen. Lyon, it is believed that Gen. Phelps will find little difficulty in persuading his neighbors to rise and drive out their Arkansas invaders. He is a man of energy and eminently practical. In the meantime orders have gone out authorizing fifteen full regiments to be raised in Missouri for the war.

Gen. Pope has ordered Gen. Hurlbut to march from Macon City up to Kirksville, with several hundred men and two pieces of artillery, to operate against Green and his rebel force, who were last heard from in the vicinity of Edina.

Col. Moore, who has from 600 to 1,000 men stationed at Memphis, Missouri, has received orders to march from Memphis to Edina. Col. Woodyard will also move on Edina from the East from Monticello.

These movements will surround the rebels, leaving them, however, an outlet from the Fabius river, leading to Palmyra, where a force will also be ready to receive them. Mr. Martin Green and his rebels are in a fair way of being squelched.

About 1500 rebels have assembled in Saline county, and are organizing to join either Price's army in the South, or for local operations in the surrounding country. In view of the latter purpose, Union citizens of Glasgow have sent to Fremont for protection.

Some thousand or more rebels of Chariton county crossed the Missouri river at Brunswick, on Saturday, and marched southward to join Price's forces in the Southwest. They took a large number of horses and wagons with them.

Accounts from Springfield are to the effect that from 6,000 to 10,000 of McCullough's army had left for the North. A small force have reached Lebanon, on the Rolla road, and are engaged in making reprisals and committing depredations on Union men. About 700 of the exiles from Springfield have joined Col. Boyd's regiment. Thousands of Union men have been obliged to abandon their homes in the southwest and leave their property at the mercy of the rebels. There is much distress among these people, large numbers of them having neither money nor provisions. The baggage train of the Federal Army which was brought from Springfield by Major Sturgis, is said to be worth a million and a half of dollars. The passage of the rebel army north, will enable our forces, when they move back to Springfield, to cut off its communications with and retreat to Arkansas, and thus completely inclose it in the western counties of the State.

Capt. Emmet McDonald, of the secession army, came to Gen. Siegel's camp at Rolla under a flag of truce on the 18th inst. He reports that Capt. Charles C. Rogers, aid-de-camp to Gov. Jackson, and Capt. Stephen A. Coleman, both of St. Louis, were killed in the battle of the 10th. Also that McCullough's force before the battle was 22,000 strong, and their killed and wounded amounted to from 2,500 to 3,000.

He also states that Generals Price and Clark were slightly, and Brig.-Gen. Slack seriously wounded in the late engagement; also, Col. Bay, formerly the Captain of Jackson's body guard.

Messengers to Ironton bring the information that Col. Hecker, who left here on the 22d, with his regiment, surprised a body of some 400 rebels near Fredericksburg on the 25th, and captured all their camp equipage, and ate the breakfast which they had just prepared. Twelve prisoners were also taken.

Gen. Prentiss has arrived and taken command of all the forces in this section.

Gov. Gamble has appointed a Division Inspector in five of the seven military districts in the State for the purpose of mustering men into service under the militia law of 1859, revised by the State Convention. The Governor calls upon the citizens to come forward promptly to sustain the peace by the suppression and dispersion of the bands of armed men who are now committing violence in different parts of the State. As soon as troops are enrolled they will hold themselves in readiness to march at the call of the Executive to enforce order. Any regular organization will be permitted to volunteer in the service of the United States, if the members thereof so desire.

The following is the form of oath to be administered to the militia:—"You, each and every one of you, do solemnly swear that you will honestly and faithfully serve the State of Missouri against all her enemies, and that you will do your utmost to sustain the Constitution and Laws of the United States and of this State. And you do further swear that you will well and truly execute and obey the legal orders of all officers properly placed over you whilst on duty; so help you God."

Gen. Price issued the following proclamation at Springfield:

To the People of Missouri:

Fellow citizens: The army under my command has been organized under the laws of the State for the protection of your homes and firesides, and for the maintenance of the rights, dignity, and honor of Missouri. It is kept in the field for these purposes alone, and to aid in accomplishing them, our gallant Southern brethren have come into our State. With them we have achieved a glorious victory over the foe, and scattered far and wide the well appointed army which the usurper at Washington has been more than six months gathering for your subjugation and enslavement. The victory frees a large portion of the State from the power of the invaders, and restores it to the protection of the army. It consequently becomes my duty to assure you that it is my firm determination to protect every peaceable and law abiding citizen in the full enjoyment of all his rights, whatever may have been his sympathies in the present unhappy struggle, if he has not taken an active part in the cruel warfare which has been waged against the good people of the State, by the ruthless enemies whom we have just defeated. I therefore invite all good citizens to return to their homes and the practice of their ordinary avocations, with the full assurance that they, their families, their homes, and their property shall be carefully protected. I at the same time warn all evil disposed persons who may support the usurpations of any one claiming to be provisionally or temporarily Governor of Missouri, and who shall in any other way give aid or comfort to the enemy, that they shall be held as enemies and treated accordingly.

(Signed) STERLING PRICE,
Major Gen. Commanding Mo. State Guard.

Gen. Price has issued his official report relative to the action of his brigade in the battle near Springfield. His men were Missourians, and numbered 5,220, of which 156 were killed, and 517 were wounded.

Among the killed are Cols. Wightman, Allen, and Brown, Lieut. Col. Austin, Major Rodgers, Captains Englehart, Ferris, Hillock, Blackwell and Coleman, Lieutenants Hughes and Haskins.

The wounded are Brigadier General Clarke, Cols. Burbridge, Foster, Kelly and Hawthorne; Captains Nichols, Dougherty, Armstrong, and McCarthy. Many of the wounds of both officers and men are reported mortal.

The entire rebel army had been ordered to move forward on Gen. Lyon in four columns at 9 o'clock P. M., so as to surround Springfield and begin a simultaneous attack at day break, but the order was countermanded in consequence of the darkness of the night and the threatening storm.

Gov. Blair, of Michigan, received on the 21st inst. a requisition from Gen. Fremont for all the Michigan troops now ready, and as many more as can be raised in the next twenty days, to be sent to St. Louis. It is evidently in contemplation to prosecute a vigorous campaign in the southwest.

The Secretary of War has ordered the Governor of Illinois to prepare all the men at his disposal for instant removal to St. Louis.

Reports on the 24th give information of Hardee's forces, which are withdrawing from Greenville towards Reeves' Ferry, which they are fortifying, and also to Benton's Station, nearer the Arkansas line. This seems to confirm previous reports that the eastern division of the rebels is hastening to join Gen. Pillow. A strong body of Jeff. Thompson's forces is represented to have occupied Benton, eight miles back of Commerce, where they are throwing up fortifications.

The body of General Lyon arrived at St. Louis on the train from Rolla on the 26th, and was escorted from the depot by two companies of soldiers.

A private of Colonel Moore's regiment arrived at Keokuk from Athens, Mo., on the 26th. He states that Green was approaching that place with a force variously estimated at 1,500 to 3,000. The Union pickets which were sixteen miles out were driven in. Col. Moore has 900 men and four cannon. Three hundred men left here last night and this morning to reinforce him. General Hurlburt is reported to be behind Green with 600 Union troops.

Department of the East.

PRIVATE advices from Kentucky state that the Union men in that State are rapidly receiving arms and organizing. Four or five regiments are ready. It is believed that, in a few days, 20,000 loyal citizens of Kentucky and Eastern Tennessee, from which hundreds of fugitives are prepared to fight their way back, will be in line.

James Rogers, one of the deserters from the rebel army, and who was a member of the Polish Legion, states that when his regiment left New Orleans there was not another regiment remaining in that city, and that it was almost impossible to obtain recruits, though the most active measures were being made to do so.

Information has been received at headquarters to the effect that the recent rains had entirely broken the plans of the rebels for a movement upon the city by their having so swollen the Potomac as to make it unfordable. There is now no point between Georgetown and Harper's Ferry, where the river can be forded.

The 22d inst. was an eventful day with the military men in the department of Alexandria, caused by the review of the division by General McClellan and his staff. The customary salute was fired, and the new General expressed himself as highly pleased with the conduct of the troops. The new order in relation to passes between Alexandria and Washington is now rigidly enforced, much to the inconvenience of those who are unable to prove their loyalty. A large number of Alexandrians were unable to return home to-night, as Provost Marshal Porter, of Washington, requires all receiving passes to be personally vouched for as Union men.

A skirmish took place at Hawksnest, in Kenawha Valley, eight miles beyond Gauley, on the 20th inst. The rebels, who were 4,000 strong, advanced to where the 11th Ohio had erected barricades, and were driven back with the loss of fifty killed and a considerable number wounded and taken prisoners. Our loss amounted to none killed, two slightly wounded, and one missing. Our forces captured quite a number of horses and equipments.

Upon Gen. McClellan's order, all the women in the camps across the Potomac, married or unmarried, were sent away on the 19th, save two hospital nurses for each regiment.

Johnson and Beauregard have been reinforced by some 15,000 or 20,000 since the Bull Run battle, and it was reported on the 21st that Yorktown, Newport, and Richmond, have been almost denuded of troops, whose ultimate destination is presumed to be Maryland and Washington. In the belief that they design to cross below and above the city, ample precautions have been taken. The Potomac flotilla has been enlarged by the addition of six or eight vessels and a number of launches, and the present force could be largely increased on short notice. The Chain Bridge and fords above, the latter for the present rendered useless by the heavy rains, are well guarded. The Potomac fleet now consists of eleven well armed steamers and eleven launches, each carrying 15 men and a Dahlgren 12-pounder.

The mutinous spirit which exhibited itself in the 79th, 19th, 13th, and 21st New York regiments, has been totally suppressed, and the ringleaders sent to Tortugas island.

Trustworthy intelligence from Northwestern Virginia states that General Rosecrans is securely intrenched, and with a sufficient force to remove any cause of apprehension for his safety. The rebels are reported intrenching themselves at a distance of from fifteen to twenty miles, and with a force variously estimated at from two thousand to twenty thousand men.

The continued improvement of the troops in all respects is the subject of congratulation in the army as well as in the executive quarters, resulting mainly from strict discipline. The line of the upper Potomac is now well guarded.

The correspondent of the Associated Press writes of General Banks' division as follows:—The health of the army is generally good. The hospitals have but few tenants. There has been a great improvement in the condition of the troops since they left Sandy Hook.

Major General Butler, of Fortress Monroe, has been detailed by Gen. Wool to the command of the volunteer forces at that post. General Butler will occupy that position for some time before returning to Massachusetts to raise a new division.

Gen. Hunter has almost recovered from his wounds. He will to-morrow take command of the Illinois troops.

Gen. Heintzelman has suffered a relapse. The public will be concerned to hear that the wound on his arm threatens inflammation.

Richard B. Irwin, late of the War Department, has been appointed Aid-de-Camp to Gen. McClellan, with the rank of Captain.

Gen. McDowell has been appointed to the division comprising the brigades of Generals Keys and Wadsworth.

A letter from Savannah says the Oglethorpe Regiment of Georgia lost 517 men at the battle of Manassas.

The question of the terms of enlistment, which has been the source of the recent disturbances in several of the regiments, has been judicially and finally settled. The Government's right to hold the soldiers, and the fallacy of the pretences originated by mischief-makers are effectually expressed by the decision of Advocate Justice Wayne, who has made the following order, viz.:—That the writ of *habeas corpus* awarded by me on a prior day, (on the 10th,) on the application of Edward A. Stevens, the petition be and hereby is discharged, and that the aforesaid Edward A. Stevens be and he hereby is remitted to his military duty in the 1st Minnesota regiment, Colonel Willis, and that until then he remain in the custody of the U. S. Marshall for this district.

The line of the Alexandria and Loudon Railroad is dotted with rebel camps. At Leesburg there are 3,000 infantry and six cannon. At a point five or six miles below, are 6,000 infantry and six cannon. Still further on, four miles beyond, are 3,600 infantry, and in Loudon are 2,000. The Potomac, however, remains too high to be forded, even by cavalry, to whose saddles the water comes.

It appears that the withdrawal of the rebels from Fairfax Court House was a regular stampede. Two scouting parties of the enemy mistook each other for national troops, attacked each other, sharply fought, and rapidly fled after a few rounds, conveying the news that McClellan and all his army were in pursuit. The consequences of the intelligence was a hasty flight of the rebels, who dropped their sick along the road.

The Government has reliable information that a quarrel has broken out among the leading traitors of the rebel States that promises to be disastrous. The belligerents are Toombs and the Virginians and North Carolina on one side; and Davis, Wigfall, and the extremeists of South Carolina, on the other.

The complaint among the disaffected is that Davis is progressing rather fast toward the legitimate results of treason, and the abnegation of State and individual rights.

Destruction of Hampton, Va.

THE Baltimore *Sun* of the 10th inst., says that the steamer Adelaide, Captain Pearson, arrived there the day previous, with about fifty passengers, mostly officers and privates of the army. They bring the news of the burning of Hampton village by General Magruder. The village contained about 460 houses, all of which, with the exception of ten, are totally destroyed. The population by the last census was about 2,000, white and black, most of whom had left the place. There remained about 60 persons in the village, of whom two-thirds were colored. The others were men of business who had long been residents of the town.

An advance guard of the Confederate troops entered the town and set on fire some unoccupied houses. The troops then notified the residents of other houses to leave in fifteen minutes, when a general rush for Old Point took place. Among the houses destroyed were fifteen public buildings, including three hotels, five churches, &c. There were three Methodist churches, one Baptist, and one Protestant Episcopal which was over a hundred years old. The value of the property destroyed is thought to be not less than eight hundred thousand dollars. The dwelling of Mr. Philip J. Gibson cost twenty-eight thousand dollars. Mr. Samuel Cummings, an old resident, had two handsome buildings burnt. Many of the white inhabitants of the town had great difficulty in making their escape. Most of them reached Old Point Hotel in safety. Several came up to Baltimore in the boat, having lost all they possessed.

Affairs in Washington.

THE State Department has received a letter from the United States Consul at Curocoa, dated the 7th inst., in which he says that according to the statement of a runaway seaman, an Englishman named Ord, from the privateer Sumter, she was not allowed to enter Cienfuegos, but was ordered to anchor below the fort. Her prizes, however, six in number, went into port. The Sumter, after coaling, proceeded to sea immediately, supposing some of our men-of-war were in pursuit. She subsequently captured two American vessels, both loaded with provisions, one of them named Joseph Maxwell, off Puerto Cabello. She was seen on the 22d inst., in the vicinity of Moterim, on the coast of Venezuela, proceeding to windward; and it is supposed continued her course through the windward passage to capture vessels there.

The Consul had, on the day of writing, called on the Governor of the Island, requesting an answer to his question whether the Sumter would again be admitted into port, should she re-appear. The Governor, in his reply, assures him that she would not, on the ground that since she left there she had been capturing vessels on the main, and as he desired to occupy a strict neutrality according to his orders, he could not permit the Island to be made a starting point for the Sumter. The Consul questioned the Governor in regard to other vessels under the same flag and commission, when he stated that should another vessel appear he would act according to circumstances. The Consul adds:—"I am of opinion the Governor has committed himself in admitting the Sumter here, and now desires to arrange the affair." The majority of the people of Curacoa are of the same opinion.

Post-Master General Blair, in respose to an inquiry on the subject, says he has neither the power to interdict nor to suspend intercourse between the loyal and rebellious States by private express, or otherwise. This power rests with the War and Treasury Departments alone, and so long as these Departments forbear to exercise it, correspondence between the insurgents of the South and their friends and abettors at the North may be lawfully continued. His power over the matter extends only to the protection of the revenues of the Department from fraud by the conveyance of this circuitous correspondence over the post routes of the United States, partly in the mails and partly by private expresses unlawfully. This the Post-Master General believes has been effectually done in a manner set forth in his letter on the subject to General McClellan, published a few weeks ago. He concludes by saying:—"You have doubtless observed that the President, in pursuance of an act of Congress, passed at the recent session, has, by his proclamation of the 16th instant, declared that all commercial intercourse between the insurgent States, or the people thereof, and the loyal States, is unlawful. It is presumed that instructions will be issued by the Treasury Department for the due enforcement of this declaration, and that the above, of which you complain, will be effectually suppressed."

The State Department has issued the following explanatory notice:

The regulation of the Department of the 19th inst., on the subject of passports, was principally intended to check communication of disloyal persons with Europe. Consequently passports will not be required by ordinary travelers on lines of Railroad from the United States which enter British possessions. If, however, in any special case, transit of persons should be objected to by an Agent of this Government, the Border Agent will cause such person to be detained until communication can be had with this Department in regard to the case.

WM. H. SEWARD.

By an order from the Adjutant General's office, from this time until January 1st, 1862, recruiting officers are directed to make all their enlistments of men to the regular army for the term of three years. Minimum standard of height for recruits is fixed at five feet three inches.

Typhoid fever has appeared in the Government hospitals, and nearly all the sick and wounded soldiers have been attacked by the disease.

Brigadier General Anderson left here for Kentucky on the 20th, although his health is not fully restored. He is anxious to be on active duty, and will at once assume command of his department.

Congressman Potter's Committee has reported to the Secretary of War the names of twelve disloyal clerks and not a few disaffected army officers; to the Secretary of the Treasury the names of the disloyal beyond doubt, and ten suspected; and to the Secretary of the Interior twenty disloyal and seven suspected.

Thomas McKay, of Ohio, has been appointed Aid-de-Camp to Major General McClellan, with the rank of Colonel, to date from August 19th, 1860. The commission is dated thus as a reward of the services rendered by him in Western Virginia, as a civilian. The appointment is the first and only one made under the act of August 5th, 1860. Col. McKay is a western man, born in Mason county, Kentucky.

The startling announcement made the other day by the New York Press, to the effect that England and France had formed an alliance with a view to combined action on American affairs, is untrue. The facts are, that three weeks ago M. Thouvenal, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, transmitted a note to the English Government, proposing that the two Cabinets come to a clearer understanding as to the United States. To this note the English Cabinet sent a message, asking for a more explicit statement. The reply was that England should unite with France for the purpose of obtaining the autumn supply of cotton and tobacco from the United States. The English Government then replied that it could enter into no such agreement.

General James Shields, of California, has been appointed Brigadier General of volunteers.

Wm. H. Wallace, of Washington Territory, has been appointed Governor of that Territory. Also, Leander J. S. Turner, of Illinois, to be Secretary of Washington Territory. Also, A. S. Paddock, of Nebraska, to be Secretary thereof.

Commander Livingston, of the steamer Penguin, writing to the Navy Department, under date of the 13th inst., communicates interesting particulars of his blockading operations off the Cape. He states among other things that, chasing the Louisa, of Wilmington, N. C., he brought her within reach of his guns, when she ran ashore, keeled over, filled with water, and became a wreck. She intended going to the West Indies with a cargo of lumber, and return with coffee.

Commander Hickley, of the British ship Gladiator, has sent a note to Commodore Stringham, which has been forwarded to the Navy Department, representing that the blockade is open at the entrance of Cape Fear River and Wilmington, Port Beaufort and Occoquan, inlet to Pemlico Sound, all on the coast of North Carolina. The Navy Department will soon remedy these deficiencies. Thirteen vessels, seven of them steamers, carrying 2,000 men, are expected home within 40 or 50 days, and will be added to the blockade force. The Brazil squadron, the frigate Congress and another, is expected daily. The African squadron, three vessels, one the Mohican, equal to the Iroquois, should be here early in September; the China squadron a month later.

THE following order has just been published by the Post-Master General:

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
August 24th, 1861.

The President of the United States directs that his Proclamation of the 16th, interdicting commercial intercourse with the so-called Confederate States, shall be applied to correspondence with those States; and has devolved upon this Department the enforcement of so much of the interdict as relates to such correspondence. The officers and agents of this Department will, therefore, without further instructions, lose no time in putting an end to written intercourse with those States, by causing the arrest of any express agent or other person who shall after the promulgation of this order receive letters to be carried to or from those States, and will seize all such letters and forward them to this Department.

M. BLAIR, P. M. General.

The President, with the Secretary of State, attended General McClellan's reviews on the south side of the Potomac, Saturday. The perfection of the discipline surpassed anything that has been seen in the military line in this country since the war of 1812. The volunteers have already become soldiers. Gen. McClellan declares his perfect satisfaction with this army, the greatest ever seen on this continent.

Recently, a gentleman wrote to the Navy Department, inquiring whether a bounty would be given for the capture of privateers. It is understood that other parties would, for a consideration, engage in the same business, but the Department has no such power under the present law. One-half the value of all prizes goes to the Government, and the remainder to the captors. From what has transpired, it is highly probable that the Government would relinquish its share to those who would successfully engage in such speculation, and while granting commissions for these purposes, afford whatever aid it could in the matter of armament.

Minister Pike, in his dispatch from the Hague, referring to the Bull Run affair, says, in his judgment this reverse will not especially prejudice our cause or lead to adverse action in Europe. A public sentiment has gradually been developed on this side of the water in regard to our affairs, which is inclined to wait a fair trial of the strength of the Government, without prejudicing its ability to overcome its misfortunes. If, he remarks in conclusion, it shall be shown to the contrary that simply huddling masses of men together does not make an army, and shall develop some kind of defence for the judgment and wisdom of experienced men and for those who have charge of affairs, then the disaster may prove to be a wholesome experience, and not an unmitigated calamity.

The following has been promulgated from Washington. If carried out it will act as a virtual suppression of the newspapers heretofore named, and all that may be presented hereafter:

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
August 22d, 1851.

On receipt of this letter, none of the newspapers published in New York city which were presented by the Grand Jury as dangerous, from their disloyalty, shall be forwarded in the mails

T. B. TROTT, Chief Clerk.

To the Post-Master New York city.

The arrest of Mayor Berrett and his removal produced some sensation, but no surprise, that military measure having been previously expected. It is not for the reason merely that he refused to take the oath of loyalty as an ex-officio member of the Board of Police authorized by Congress. There were other grounds, good and sufficient to the Government, for this proceeding. A guard has been temporarily placed over his house, where his family still remain.

The News Condenser.

— Martial law has been proclaimed at Venezuela.

— Peaches are very abundant and cheap at Philadelphia, this season.

— There are in the city of Chicago 33 John Smiths and 252 other Smiths.

— The Mayor of Harrisburg has suspended the sale of liquor entirely.

— Union lodges are said to exist in almost every district in North Carolina.

— The rebel Congress has adjourned, to meet again in November next.

— Twenty-five captured Virginians were taken to Columbus, O., on the 18th.

— An attack upon Fortress Monroe is said to be contemplated within a week.

— The official statement of the rebel army at the South makes it 210,000 men.

— In the city of New York, there are twenty synagogues and thirty thousand Jews.

— The Memphis papers report two captures of Union steamers on the Mississippi.

— Cotton was raised in Ocean Co., N. J., 75 years ago. Tobacco is raised there now.

— A literary man, of European reputation, has just died at Prague—Paul Joseph Safarik.

— It is rumored that the system of grand juries will shortly be abolished in Great Britain.

— The prospect for crops in Kansas is encouraging. There seems to be a great abundance.

— The rebels have released the chaplains of several of our regiments, captured at Manassas.

— It is estimated that the State of Virginia has already lost more than 5,000 of her slaves.

— The Quebec Board of Trade has decided that the British shilling be taken for twenty-four cents.

— Gen. Wool arrived at Fortress Monroe on Saturday week, and at once assumed command of the post.

— The Sonora sailed on the 10th for Panama, with $858,000 in treasure. Business in California is good.

— There are now forty-two Brigadier Generals in the army, not including regulars entitled to that rank.

— Coffee is selling in Memphis, Tenn., at 40 cents a pound. The people have not yet devised a substitute.

— It is said that extensive slave insurrections are imminent in North Carolina and other Southern States.

— To the camp at Chalons the Emperor has added a series of military gardens, cultivated by the soldiers.

— The Texas Ranger records great havoc by the ball worm on the cotton crop, in the vicinity of Brentain.

— Ladies' bonnets are now constructed of paper, which can be made to resemble closely all kinds of straw.

— A Richmond correspondent of the Mobile News (a lady, the editor says,) represents that city as very, "gay."

— A ferry boat on the Rhine, just below Coblentz, recently sank while crossing, and 15 passengers were drowned.

— It is proposed in London to establish a national gallery of pictures, commemorating individual acts of bravery.

— The Richmond Enquirer says that the pledges of cotton, rice, grain, money, &c., cannot fall short of $30,000,000.

— The Sultan of Turkey has reduced his own salary from $5,000,000 to $2,000,000. He has an American Secretary.

— Gen. Twiggs is constructing works of defence. The New Orleans Delta says $100,000 are placed at his disposal.

— Gen. McClellan forbids the use of gray uniforms—the rebel's color. This is done to prevent confusion on the field.

— American farmers have already received something like thirty millions of dollars from England for breadstuffs, this year.

— Mr. Augustus G. Bradford has been nominated a candidate for Governor of Maryland, by the Union State Convention.

— The Chancellor of the English Exchequer received more than fifty thousand dollars last year as "conscience money."

— The Mobile papers are jubilant over the destruction of Hampton by Gen. Magruder. The News calls it "A Moscow Sacrifice."

— Every soldier who loses his gun through neglect, or throws it away, is henceforth to have its value deducted from his wages.

— The U. S. Government has paid over to the State Government of new Virginia $41,000, due under the land distribution act.

— Every bank of New York city has paid into the Sub-Treasury the ten per cent. installment upon the subscription to the loan.

— The rate of taxation in Lowell, the present year, is 90 cents on the $100, which is higher than it has been before in many years.

— During the past year there have been daily three thousand visitors to the Manchester (Eng.) Free Library and News Rooms.

— The Wheeling Convention, on Tuesday week, passed the ordinance dividing the State of Virginia, by a vote of fifty to twenty eight.

— The Russian war cost the English Government more annually than the whole amount to be raised for war purposes by ours.

— The Nova Scotia Literary and Scientific Society has offered a prize of $400 for the best essay on the fisheries of that province.

— Rifled cannon of steel are now manufactured in England at the following rates: A 200-pounder, $2,000; a 12-pounder, $150.

— Gov. Buckingham, of Ct., has telegraphed to Gen. Fremont to have the body of Gen. Lyon sent to that State to be buried at Ashford.

— Information has been received in New Orleans that Frank R. Lubbock, formerly Lieutenant Governor, has been elected Governor of Texas.

— The annual cost of working the railways of Great Britain and Ireland, exclusive of rates and government duties, is sixty million dollars.

— Merriam, one of John Brown's confederates at Harper's Ferry, has been drummed off the Island of Hayti, and returned to the States.

— The Boston banks have agreed to take ten millions, and the country banks of Massachusetts five millions, as the first installment of the loan.

— Col. Farnham, of the New York Fire Zouaves, died at Washington, on Wednesday week, from wounds received at the battle of Bull Run.

— Hon. Lewis Cass is writing the history of events which, in his knowledge, have produced the present state of things with the slave oligarchy.

— The military department hitherto under the command of Gen. McClellan has been extended so as to include those of Gen. Dix and Gen. Banks.

— In 1850, there were only ten synagogues in the whole land. To-day there are over a quarter of a million of Jews and about ninety synagogues.

— The illness of ex-President Buchanan is said to have been caused by sheer exhaustion. He daily receives letters by the bushel, full of bitter denunciation.

— The Canada arrived off Cape Race Monday week, with news to the 11th. She brings $214,900 in specie. The news of European politics is unimportant.

— Shoe manufacturers at South Brookfield, Mass., have begun the manufacture of army shoes. This has a promising look for business in the neighborhood.

— The Mobile News heads its intelligence from the North, "News from the Enemy's Country," and speaks of the Union troops as "Hessians." Amiable man!

— The N. O. True Delta represents the prospects of the sugar crop as being flattering. It thinks it will be the heaviest crop ever gathered in Louisiana.

The Publisher to the Public.

As the season for Trade is again at hand, we would remind those who wish to Do Business the present Autumn and Fall, that the RURAL NEW-YORKER possesses extraordinary advantages as an ADVERTISING MEDIUM, its *actual circulation* exceeding by at least 20,000 that of *any other* paper published in this State or section of the Union (out of New York city.)

☞ ASSOCIATED EFFORT leads to success in canvassing for periodicals, as well as in other enterprises. For instance, if you are forming (or wish to form) a club for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and cannot fill it up in your own neighborhood, get some person or persons a few miles distant to join with or assist you—adding their names to those you may procure, and sending all together. Please think of this, and act upon the suggestion if convenient.

☞ WESTERN AND SOUTHERN MONEY.—In the present deranged state of the currency, we are unable to use Western and Southern money, as our bankers will not purchase it at any rate of discount. Agents and Subscribers who cannot obtain New York, New England, Pennsylvania, or Canada Money, will please send us *U. S. Postage Stamps*, as they are far preferable to any uncurrent bank bills.

☞ CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers wishing the address of their papers changed from one Post-Office to another, must specify the OLD address as well as the NEW to secure compliance with their requests.

☞ ANY person so disposed can act as local agent for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and those who volunteer in the good cause will receive gratuities, and their kindness be appreciated.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office,
ROCHESTER, August 27, 1861.

FLOUR remains at last quotations. Corn Meal has advanced slightly.

GRAIN—We note two changes in grain. Best Canada wheat has declined 2@5 cents during the week. Rye will now bring but 40@45 cents per bushel of 60 pounds.

There are various other changes, but these are in matters of minor character, and may be observed by an examination of the table of quotations.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.	
Flour, winter wheat,	$5.00@6.25
Flour, spring do,	4.25@4.75
Flour, buckwheat	2.00@2.00
Meal, Indian	90c@$1
Wheat, Genesee	1.00@1.20
Best white Canada	1.18@1.20
Corn, old	40@42c
Corn, new	40@42c
Rye, 60 lbs. ⅌ bush.	40@45c
Oats, by weight	23@25c
Barley	50@50c
Buckwheat	35@40c
Beans	1.00@1.25
MEATS.	
Pork, Mess	$15.00@16.00
Pork, clear	17.00@18.00
Pork, cwt	5.00@5.50
Beef, cwt	4.00@5.00
Spring lambs, each	1.25@1.75
Mutton, carcass	5@5c
Hams, smoked	9@10c
Shoulders	6@6c
Chickens	9@10c
Turkeys	10@11c
Geese	40@50c
Ducks ⅌ pair	38@44c
DAIRY, &C.	
Butter, roll	8@9c
Butter, firkin	8@9c
Cheese	4@5c
Lard, tried	8½@9c
Tallow, rough	4@4½c
Tallow, tried	6@6½c
Eggs, dozen	8@9c
Honey, box	12@12½c
Candles, box	10½@11c
Candles, extra	12@12c
FRUIT AND ROOTS.	
Apples, bushel	50@75c
Apples, dried ⅌ lb.	3@4c
Peaches, do.	12@12c
Cherries, do.	12@13c
Plums, do.	00@8c
Potatoes	30@38c
HIDES AND SKINS.	
Slaughter	3@3c
Calf	5@6c
Sheep Pelts	18@38c
Lamb Pelts	18@31c
SEEDS.	
Clover, bushel	$5.00@5.25
Timothy	2.50@3.00
SUNDRIES.	
Wood, hard	$3.00@5.00
Wood, soft	3.00@3.00
Coal, Lehigh	7.00@7.00
Coal, Scranton	5.75@6.00
Coal, Pittston	5.75@6.00
Coal, Shamokin	5.75@6.00
Coal, Char	10@12½c
Salt, bbl	1.38@1.42
Hay, tun	6.00@9.00
Straw, tun	0.00@0.00
Wool, ⅌ lb	18@28c
Whitefish, half bbl.	3.00@3.00
Codfish, quintal	4.00@4.50
Trout, half bbl	3.00@3.25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, AUGUST 26.—FLOUR—Market opened quiet and firm, and closed 5c lower, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption. Sales at $4,30@4,40 for superfine State; $4,45@4,65 for extra do; $4,35@4,40 for superfine Western; $4,50@4,75 for common to medium extra do; $5,00@5,10 for shipping brands extra round hooped Ohio, and $5,20@5,25 for trade brands do.—market closing quiet. Canadian flour may be quoted a trifle easier, with a moderate business doing. Sales at $4,35@4,40 for superfine, and $4,50@7,60 for common to choice extra. Rye flour steady, with small sales at $2,50@3,85 Corn meal steady and in moderate demand, with sales at $2,85 for choice Western and Jersey.

GRAIN—Wheat market opened heavy and closed 2@3c lower, with only a moderate business doing for export and home consumption. Sales Chicago spring at 93@98c; fair to strictly prime Milwaukee club at $1,04@1,12; unsound do, at 95c@$1; winter red Western at $1,16@1,27; white Western at $1,29@1,31; white California at $1,25, and white Kentucky at $1,35@1,41. Rye firm but quiet, with sales at 40@60c, for Western, and 65@68c for State. Barley continues dull and nominally unchanged—Barley malt quiet and nominal. Peas remain quiet and nominal at 67c for Canadian. Corn market rules very firm, and 1c better, with a good demand for export and home consumption. Sales at 44@46c for common mixed Western; 47@48c for fair do; 49@50c for prime shipping do, and 45@52c for inferior to choice yellow Western. Oats in moderate demand at 20@29c for Canadian, and 32@33c. for Western and State.

PROVISIONS—Pork in moderate demand and steady; sales at $15,00 for mess; and $10,00@10,12½ for prime. Beef quiet and firm; sales at $4@4,50 for country prime; $5,00@5,50 for country mess; $9,00@11,25 for re-packed mess; and $12,50@13,12½ for extra mess. Prime mess beef continues dull and nominally unchanged, at $17@18. Beef hams quiet; sales at $14,50 Cut meats quiet and dull, sales at 4½@5c for Shoulders, and 5@6½c for Hams. Smoked meats scarce and very quiet. Bacon dull and nominally unchanged. Lard firm, with a moderate demand; sales at 8½@9½c. for No. 1 to choice Western. Butter firm and selling at 7@11c for Ohio, and 12@14 cts for State. Cheese in good request, and selling at 6@7½c for good to very choice.

ASHES—Steady and quiet at $5,25 for Pots, and $5,37½ for Pearls.

HOPS—Are in moderate demand, mostly for home use, and though the crop accounts from England are unfavorable for holders, the market is not greatly influenced, the stock here being small. The sales include about 150 to 200 bales, growth of 1860, at 18@27c; and 70 do, crop of 1859, 10@12c, cash.

ALBANY, AUGUST 26.—FLOUR AND MEAL—There is no important change to note in Flour; the demand is fair and the market steady.

Common to good State,	$4,20@4,50
Fancy and extra State,	4,40@4,75
Common to good Western,	4,50@5,00
Extra Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, &c.,	5,25@6,75
Extra Ohio,	6,00@6,75
Common Canadian,	4,00@4,50
Extra Canadian,	4,75@6,75
Fancy Genesee,	6,00@6,50
Extra Genesee and city brands,	6,00@7.00

Corn meal is firmer with moderate sales at 94c@$1.06 ⅌ 100 lbs.

GRAIN—A fair milling demand for wheat at steady prices; sales inferior red Western at $1,06; red winter State at $1.12½; white Genesee at $1,32; red Michigan at $1,15, and white do. at $1,32. Corn steady with sales mixed Western at 47c. Rye and Barley quiet. Oats in moderate request and steady; sales inferior Canadian on p. t. and State at 33c, delivered.

FEED—Sales 38 tuns 28 lb. Feed at 45c.

BUFFALO, AUGUST 26.—FLOUR—Market steady, with sales to-day of Wisconsin extra at $4,00@4.33; $4,50@4.87½ for extra Indiana and Ohio; $5,00@5,75 for double extras, and $6,00 for favorite do.

GRAIN—Wheat, quiet; sales to-day of Kentucky white at $1,16; Milwaukee club at 88c; red winter at $1@1,03; Chicago spring at 90c. Corn quiet, with sales to-day at 37c, 36½@37c. Oats, last sale was at 26c. Beans quoted at 75c@$1,12½. Peas nominal at 50c for prime. Barley nominal at 42@50c. Rye, also nominal at 43@45c, as to quality. Seeds, timothy quoted at $1,50@2.

PROVISIONS—Market inactive. Small sales pork at $14,50@15. Hams at 8@8½c.; 9@9½c for sugar cured do. Shoulders at 6c. Lard at 8@8½c. Beef at 6@9c. Cheese at 6@9c for old, and 4@6c for new.

TORONTO, AUGUST 24.—FLOUR—There have been but few transactions, owing to the small quantities held here. We notice a sale of 200 barrels extra at $5 f. o. b. In the absence of sales, we quote

Superfine,	$4,20@4,25
Fancy, nominally,	4,50@4,65
Extra,	5,00@5,00
Double Extra,	5,50@6,00

GRAIN—The deliveries of grain on our market still continue limited. The receipts yesterday would not exceed 300 bushels from farmers. Fall wheat is in active request to fill custom orders, prices ranging from 95c@$1 for inferior to medium; $1,04 and in one instance $1,08 for good to prime. Of spring wheat there is very little offering at 85@88c ⅌ bushel. Barley—one load sold at 42c ⅌ bushel. Peas, none. Oats are more plentiful and quiet at 30@32c.—*Globe.*

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, AUG. 21.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality, ⅌ cwt,	$7.50@8.00
Ordinary quality,	7.00@7.75
Common quality,	6.50@7.00
Inferior quality,	6.00@6.50
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality,	$50.00@60.00
Ordinary quality,	40.00@50.00
Common quality,	30.00@35.00
Inferior quality,	22.00@28.00
VEAL CALVES.	
First quality, ⅌ lb.,	4½@5½c
Ordinary quality,	4 @4½c
Common quality,	3½@4 c
Inferior quality,	3 @3½c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality, ⅌ head,	$4.00@4.60
Ordinary quality,	3.25@3.75
Common quality,	2.75@3.25
Inferior quality,	2.25@2.75
SWINE.	
First quality, ⅌ lb,	3½@4 c
Other qualities,	3 @3½c

ALBANY, AUGUST 26.—BEEVES—There is a falling off in the supply, compared with last week, of 750 head, and a marked decline in the average quality. The decline in prices in the New York market last week is felt here, and buyers have things pretty much their own way. We do not know of but one drove in the yards that will command over 4½c ⅌ lb, live weight, and we saw several bunches of fine, fat four and five years old steers that were sold at 4@4½c ⅌ lb. As compared with last week, the decline in prices is equivalent perhaps to the falling off in quality.

RECEIPTS—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

	This week.	Last week.	Cor. week last year.
Cattle,	2,912	3,600	3,147
Sheep,	3,469	5,336	3,346
Hogs,	50		72

PRICES—At least two-thirds of the cattle changed hands at the following quotations, most of the drovers taking up with almost any offer made, rather than run the risk of the next New York market:

	This week.	Last week.
Premium,	0 @ 0c	4½@4¾c
Extra,	4½@4½c	4½@4½c
First quality,	3½@4 c	3¾@4 c
Second quality,	3 @3½c	3½@3½c
Third quality,	2½@2½c	2½@0 c

SHEEP AND LAMBS—The demand is extremely light, and the supply is unusually large for the season. In addition to the 3,500 fresh arrivals, several hundred were held over, and two or three droves that were sent to New York last week were brought back, there being no market there for them. The best on sale can be bought at 3c ⅌ lb. The Albany buyers are taking only enough to supply the immediate demand of the city butchers. A drove of 191, aver. 96 lbs, sold for $2.25 ⅌ head; and this was the highest price bid on a lot claimed to be the best in market, aver. 105 lbs.

HOGS—Very little demand outside of what is required by the butchers for their stalls. No stores on sale and still-fed scarce. We quote corn-fed at 3¼@3½c ⅌ lb. A lot of prime Illinois, aver. 271 lbs, sold at 3½c ⅌ lb.—*Atlas and Argus.*

CAMBRIDGE, AUG. 21.—At market 975 Cattle, 700 Beeves, and 525 Stores, consisting of Working Oxen, Cows and Calves, Yearlings, two and three years old, not suitable for Beef.

PRICES—Market Beef—Extra, $6.00@6.50; first quality, $5.75; second do, $5.25@0.00; third do, $4.25.

WORKING OXEN—$80, $90@120.

COWS AND CALVES—$30, 40@50.

STORES—Yearlings, none; Two years old, none; Three years old, none.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—5,350 at market. Prices in lots at $1.25@1.62 each; extra and selections $2.00@2.50.

Spring Lambs—None.

HIDES—4½@5c ⅌ lb. Tallow, 5@5½c.

PELTS—25c@$1. Calf Skins, 7@8c ⅌ lb.

VEAL CALVES—$0@0.

BRIGHTON, AUGUST 22.—At market 1,050 Beeves, 100 Stores 5,700 Sheep and Lambs, and 800 Swine.

PRICES—Market Beef—Extra, $6.50; first quality, $6.25; second do, $6.00; third do, $0,00@5,50.

MILCH COWS—$14@50; common, $19@22.

WORKING OXEN—$110, $115@120.

VEAL CALVES—$3.00@4,50.

YEARLINGS—None; two years old, $00@00; three years old, $19@20 each.

HIDES—4½@5c. Tallow, 5@5½c.

CALF SKINS—8@9c.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1.25@2,00; extra and selections, $2,50@$4.00.

PELTS—25c.@$1.00.

SWINE—Stores, wholesale, none; retail, none; fat hogs, still fed, none; corn fed, none; spring pigs, 6½, 7@8c.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, AUGUST 23.—An active demand for low clothing descriptions still prevails. Sales have been made of 75,000 ⅌ low and medium fleece at 32@35c (fine fleece is offered at same rates, without finding buyers.) 300 bales California clothing at 17@28c; 160 do. Cordova and Santiago, part 21, 6 mos; and 150 do. Mediterranean, suitable for army goods, at full rates. The stock of wool suited to present wants is now very light and prices have a hardening tendency. The singular and unprecedented fact exists that choice fine Wool is now lower priced than coarse qualities; full blood Saxony is not so valdable as one quarter Merino—both are offered at 35c.

American Saxony Fleece ⅌ lb,	35@38
American full-blood Merino,	34@36
American half and three-quarter blood Merino,	30@33
Native and one-fourth Merino,	28@30
Extra, Pulled,	35@37
Superfine, Pulled,	31@34
No. 1, Pulled,	26@28
Lamb's, Pulled,	25@32
California, fine, unwashed,	24@26
California, common do.	10@12
Peruvian, washed,	20@34
Valparaiso, unwashed,	11@12
South American Merino, unwashed,	21@23
Do. do. Mestiza, do.	18@20
Do. do. common, washed	10@13
Do. do. Entre Rios, do.	15@18
Do. do. Entre Rios, unwashed,	8@9
Do. do. Cordova, washed,	20@23
Cape Good Hope, unwashed,	20@27
East India, washed,	12@25
African, washed,	16@22
Do. unwashed,	10@16
Smyrna, do.	17@18
Do. washed,	20@26
Mexican, unwashed,	10@12

BOSTON, AUGUST 21—There is considerable activity in the market for domestic fleece and pulled wools, with sales of 350,000 lbs, at from 30@34c, cash, as to quality. A lot of 60 bales of California sold on private terms; and in foreign the sales have been 100 bales, mostly Mediterranean, and 400 ballots Peruvian, on private terms.

Saxony Fleece,	33@34
Full blood Merino,	32@30
Three-fourth do,	31@32
Half do,	30@31
Common,	25@30
Western mixed,	20@25
Pulled Extra,	36@40
Do. Superfine,	30@35
Pulled No. 1,	22@30
Do. No. 2,	16@20
Texas,	9@40
Smyrna, washed,	15@26
Do. unwashed,	9@17
Buenos Ayres,	9@45
Crimea,	7@17
Canada,	29@35

DETROIT, AUGUST 24.—The wool sales of the week have not been heavy. Buyers are now engaged in forwarding their purchases, and we perceive shipments of large quantities are being made for the East. Prices are without any change, and now that the principal manufacturers have laid in large stocks at their own prices, we need not look for any purchases being made except at the low quoted rates. There is no change in the quotations either East or West. The Michigan rates are as follows:

For very ordinary coarse lots,	18@20c
For common clean coarse fleeces,	20@22c
For clean ½ and ¾ blood Merino and Southdown,	23@25c
For ¾ to full blood Merino	26@28c
For choice large clips of fine Merino as high as	30@32c

Michigan Farmer.

WOOL IN JACKSON CO., MICH.—The *Patriot* states that in Jackson County, Michigan, 491,000 lbs of wool have been purchased this season at an average price of 20c ⅌ lb.

Married.

AT New Orleans, La., April 5th, 1861, by Rev. Mr. MOORE, Mr. C. N. ST. CLAIR and Mrs. ISABELLA MURRAY.

Died.

IN Elmira, on Wednesday evening, August 21st, WM. HULL, oldest son of Hon. A. S. THURSTON, aged 14 years.

IN this city, on the 22d of August, JOHN O'LOUGHLIN, Senior, aged 67 years.

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 52½ cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line.

☞ Its immense circulation among the Producers and Dealers of the Free States, renders the RURAL NEW-YORKER by far the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium of its class. This FACT should be borne in mind by all Wholesale Dealers, Manufacturers, &c., who must necessarily depend upon the People of the North for patronage.

PRINCE & CO., FLUSHING, N. Y., will send new Catalogues of Strawberries, Bulbs, Grapes, and all other Fruits, with reduced prices, to applicants with stamps.

15,000 ONE YEAR OLD No. 1 Peach TREES, for sale, $40 ⅌ 1,000; 20,000 Seedling Peach Trees, $20 ⅌ 1,000. 30,000 Apple Seedlings, $2.50 ⅌ 1,000.
607-2t P. BOWEN & CO., East Aurora, Erie Co., N. Y.

CLOVER STREET SEMINARY.—The Fall Term will commence Tuesday, Sept. 10th. Circulars may be had at the Bookstore of STEELE, AVERY & Co., or by addressing Miss AMY MOORE, Principal.
Rochester, August 26, 1861. 607-2t

NURSERYMAN WANTED.—A thorough master of his profession, perfectly sober and industrious, to take charge of a Nursery of eighteen months standing, within a mile of the city limits of Baltimore. To such a person liberal inducements will be offered. Address BOX 1,022 BALTIMORE, MD. 607-tf

SEED AND AGRICULTURAL STORE FOR SALE.—Being about to join a Volunteer Company, I offer my stock and good-will at a fair price. My stand is the best in the city. A thorough-going seedsman, with a small capital, cannot do better. GEO. F. NEEDHAM.
Buffalo, N. Y., August 29, 1861.

TREES.—We offer for sale first class trees at the following prices.
Apples $30 ⅌ 1,000; Standard Pears $200 ⅌ 1,000; Dwarf Pears $130 ⅌ 1,000; Cherries $50 ⅌ 1,000; Plums $200 ⅌ 1,000; Peaches $40 ⅌ 1,000, Apple Seedlings $3.00 ⅌ 1,000.
For particulars send for our Catalogue.
607-1t H. SOUTHWICK & SON, Dansville, Liv. Co., N. Y.

CHESTER COUNTY PIGS.—The undersigned is now prepared to execute orders for the fall trade, for his stock of *pure* Chester County Pigs. These are selected with great care and chiefly from premium stock. Reference is made to purchasers of past seasons, in all sections of the Union. Price, $16 per pair not akin, boxed and delivered in Philadelphia; payment in advance.
PASCHALL MORRIS, Agricultural and Seed Warehouse,
607-1f 1,120 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa.

ITALIAN BEES CHEAPER THAN EVER.
PRICE OF ITALIAN QUEENS.
Fertilized by Italian Drones, with a small colony of sufficient size to insure their safe arrival to their place of destination, by Express, will be $5.00.
CLUB RATES.
If two Queens are ordered to one address, ... $ 8.00
If three " " " " 10.00
If four " " " " 12.00
If six " " " " 15.00
Minister's of the Gospel supplied at $3.00, who are also entitled to the individual right of the Compound Hive, *free.*
Parties will find it to their advantage to order a Compound Hive complete, at the same time, as they will get more for less money. All communications answered if a 3 cent stamp is inclosed to pay return postage. Circulars giving full particulars will be sent, &c. K. P. KIDDER, Burlington, Vermont.

FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY of WESTERN NEW YORK.—The next meeting of the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York will be held at the Court House, in the city of Rochester, commencing on Tuesday, the 1st day of Oct. By order of Council. C. P. BISSELL, Sec'y.
Rochester, August 26, 1861.

THE AUSTIN STRAWBERRY.
THIS remarkable variety, after three years' trial, has proved to be the
MOST WONDERFUL STRAWBERRY
in cultivation. It has been produced this year—16 of the berries weighing one pound. It is as productive as the WILSON, much larger, and finer flavored; the berry is a beautiful scarlet, and commands the
HIGHEST MARKET PRICE.
It continues long in bearing, and maintains its large size throughout. It was sent to New York from Watervliet up to the 20th of July—long after all other varieties had disappeared. It is without doubt the most valuable market berry in cultivation; it is much more prolific than the Triomphe de Gand, larger in size, and altogether more attractive.
The plants of the AUSTIN are now offered at greatly reduced prices—viz: $1.00 per dozen; $4.00 per hundred, and $30.00 per thousand.
Orders addressed to CHAUNCY MILLER,
Aug. 1, 1861. 607-4t Shaker Trustee, Albany, N. Y.

TREES! TREES AT WHOLESALE.
Toledo Nurseries.
FAHNESTOCK & BAKER.
WE invite the attention of Nurserymen, Dealers and Planters to our very large and exceedingly fine Stock, and the very low prices at which we offer them. We are almost exclusively in the wholesale trade; hence Nurserymen and Wholesale Dealers will find us fully prepared to meet their wants.
Our Advantages over Eastern Nurseries.
1st. By making your purchases of us, you will save $12 to $15 per 1,000 Trees in transportation, besides the ruinous delays and risks.
2d. Our TREES being grown in the West on the best of soil, are acclimated and suited to the Western trade.
3d. They are out of the ground a much shorter time, hence less liable to injury. We pack in the best manner, in boxes with damp moss.
Read our prices and order early. "First come, first served."

Apple Trees, fine, 5 to 7 feet	$75.00 per 1,000
Do. " 3 to 4½ feet	40.00 "
Do. Dwarf 1 year	110.00 "
Do. " 2 "	130.00 "
Pears, Standard, 2 "	$25 ⅌ 100; 230.00 "
Do. 1 "	180.00 "
Do. Dwarf 1 "	140.00 "
Do. " extra 2 "	$20 ⅌ 100; 180.00 "
Cherries, Standard, 5 to 7 feet	$14 ⅌ 100.
Do. Dwarf, fine	$12 ⅌ 100.
Peach Trees	60.00 "

Currants, Black Naples, $15; Red and White Dutch, $25; other sorts very low.
Grape Vines, Raspberries, Gooseberries, Blackberries, and Strawberries, in quantity, at the lowest prices.
Evergreens, 1 to 3½ feet, at war prices.
Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, and all kinds of Stocks very low. FAHNESTOCK & BAKER, Toledo, Ohio,
607-4teo Successors to A. FAHNESTOCK & SONS.

A RARE CHANCE.
A Large Lot of Trees, Shrubs, &c., for $10.
A RARE opportunity for those wishing to purchase TREES and SHRUBS, for fall planting, is furnished by the subscriber, who offers the following assortment for $10, all choice kinds, of first quality and warranted genuine.
$10 COLLECTION.
FRUIT.
4 Standard Apple Trees.
4 Pears, Standard or Dwarf.
4 Peaches, assorted.
4 Cherries.
7 Grapes, hardy, of different kinds, as follows—1 Delaware; 2 Concord; 1 Diana; 1 Isabella; 1 Clinton; 1 Catawba.
100 Raspberries, 4 choice kinds, fall bearing included.
350 Strawberries—75 Longworth's Prolific; 75 Wilson's Seedling; 50 Burr's New Pine; 50 Early Scarlet; 50 Triomphe de Gand; 50 Jenny Lind.
4 Gooseberries, of two varieties.
16 Currants—4 White Grape; 4 Cherry; 4 Red Grape; 4 Black Naples.
ORNAMENTAL.
6 Roses—2 Hybrid Perpetual; 2 Summer; 2 Moss.
1 Spiræa callosa.
1 Spiræa Reevesii, fl. pleno.
1 Tartarian Honeysuckle.
1 Climbing Honeysuckle.
1 Weigela rosea.
1 English Hawthorn, double pink.
1 Dielytra spectabilis.
1 dozen Herbaceous Plants, including some of the best Phloxes.
Persons wishing to substitute other varieties than those named, and of the same value, will be accommodated.
TWENTY ROSES FOR $5.
Twenty good HYBRID PERPETUAL, SUMMER, and MOSS ROSES of the best and leading varieties, for $5.
FOR SALE AT WHOLESALE.
40,000 good Manetti Stocks at $12 ⅌ 1,000.
60,000 Apple Stocks at $3 ⅌ 1,000.
5,000 Isabella, Clinton, and Catawba Grape, at $40 ⅌ 1,000.
2,000 Concord Grapes at $15 ⅌ 100. Strong layers from bearing vines.
10,000 Fine Plum Stocks, cheap.
☞ All orders will be well packed in boxes, with moss, and delivered at the Railroad Depot, Express Office, &c., free of charge, according to directions.
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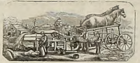

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It has ever been their aim, they further say, to make none but the first class of work, and always use the best materials and workmanship. In the construction of their Horse Powers they have endeavored to adapt them most readily and advantageously to the great variety of purposes required by the Farmer and Mechanic. The same considerations have guided them in the construction and adaptation of the various Machines made and sold by them, and to be driven by the power, in calculating their various velocities, forces, pulleys and geers, required to enable them to operate in their maximum efficiency, which is the great secret of their success.
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They have completed their new Catalogue, the most complete and beautifully illustrated work ever published by any manufacturer, embracing a great number and variety of finely executed and carefully prepared
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Patentees and Manufacturers of EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE RAILROAD HORSE POWER. Also, LEVER POWERS, for four, six, and eight horses, of new and superior construction, together with a great variety of labor-saving AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY. 607

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Gainesville, Wyoming Co., N. Y., 1861.

TO TREE DEALERS.—Before purchasing elsewhere, send for our *Wholesale Trade List* for the fall of 1861 and spring of 1862.
We offer a *very large* and extensive stock of Nursery articles, *well assorted*, and of the *very best quality*, at extremely low rates. O. B. MAXWELL & CO., Agents,
August 1, 1861. [606-6t] Dansville, Liv. Co., N. Y.

ELECTION NOTICE.—SHERIFF'S OFFICE, COUNTY OF MONROE.
Notice is Hereby Given, pursuant to the Statutes of this State, and of the annexed notice from the Secretary of State, that the General Election will be held in this County, on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November next; at which election the officers named in the annexed notice will be elected. HIRAM SMITH, Sheriff.
Dated, August 1st, 1861.

STATE OF NEW YORK,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.
Albany, August 1, 1861.
To the Sheriff of the County of Monroe:
SIR,—Notice is hereby given, that at the General Election to be held in this State, on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November next, the following officers are to be elected, to wit:
A Secretary of State, in the place of David R. Floyd Jones.
A Comptroller, in the place of Robert Denniston.
An Attorney-General, in the place of Charles G. Myers.
A State Engineer and Surveyor, in the place of Van R. Richmond.
A State Treasurer, in the place of Philip Dorsheimer.
A Canal Commissioner, in the place of Hiram Gardner, for full term.
A Canal Commissioner, in the place of Benjamin F. Bruce, who was appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Samuel H. Barnes.
An Inspector of State Prisons, in the place of Josiah T. Everest.
A Judge of the Court of Appeals, in the place of George F. Comstock.
All whose terms of office will expire on the last day of December next.
Also, a Justice of the Supreme Court, for the Seventh Judicial District, in the place of Henry Welles, whose term of office will expire on the last day of December next.
Also, a Senator, for the Twenty-eighth Senate District, comprising the County of Monroe.
COUNTY OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED.
Three Members of Assembly.
A Sheriff, in the place of Hiram Smith.
A County Clerk, in the place of Dyer D. S. Brown.
A Superintendent of the Poor, in the place of Henry H. Babcock.
Two Justices of Sessions, in the places of Alpheus S. Clark and Daniel B. DeLand.
Three Coroners, in the place of Frederick Reichenback, Oscar F. Brown and James W. Craig.
All whose terms of office will expire on the last day of December next. 605-td

"LAMBERT'S WEEVIL-PROOF" WHEAT!—A sack of 2 bushels shipped to any address, upon receipt of Three Dollars.
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Gates, Aug. 9, 1861. 605-3t

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This Institution is located in a pleasant, quiet, and remarkably healthful village, and easy of access.
The Trustees hope to receive a fair proportion of patronage to their School, and pledge themselves that no effort shall be spared to so conduct the School as to deserve it.
H. H. WATROUS, Pres't of Board of Trustees.
E. WELLS, Sec'y. 605-4t

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HOOKER, FARLEY & CO.,
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IMPROVED FAMILY SEWING MACHINES
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Glass Cloth Presser and Hemmers,
AT REDUCED PRICES.
THE WHEELER & WILSON MANUFACTURING CO. beg to state that they have reduced the prices of their SEWING MACHINES, while they have added new and important improvements. The reduction is made in the hope that the Company will have no more legal expenses defending their patents.
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Address D. D. T. MOORE, Rochester, N. Y.

"E PLURIBUS UNUM."

BY JOHN PIERPONT.

The harp of the minstrel with melody rings
When the muses have taught him to touch and to tune it;
But though it may have a full octave of strings,
To both maker and minstrel the harp is a unit.
So the power that creates
Our Republic of States
Into harmony brings them at different dates;
And the thirteen or thirty, the Union once done,
Are "*E Pluribus Unum*"—of many made one.

The science that weighs in her balance the spheres,
And watched them since first the Chaldean began it,
Now and then, as she counts them and measures their years,
Brings into our system and names a new planet.
Yet the old and new stars—
Venus, Neptune, and Mars,
As they drive round the sun their invisible cars,
Whether faster or slower their races they run,
Are "*E Pluribus Unum*"—of many made one.

Of that system of spheres should but one fly the track,
Or with others conspire for a general dispersion,
By the great central orb they would all be brought back,
Or held, each in her place, by a wholesome coercion.
Should one daughter of light
Be indulged in her flight,
They would all be engulfed by old Chaos and Night;
So must none of our sisters be suffered to run,
For "*E Pluribus Unum*"—we all go if one.

Let the demon of discord our melody mar,
Or Treason's red hand rend our Union asunder,
Break one string from our harp, or extinguish one star,
The whole system's ablaze with its lightning and thunder.
Let the discord be hushed!
Let the traitors be crushed!
Though "Legion" their name, all with victory flushed!
For aye must our motto stand, fronting the sun:
"*E Pluribus Unum*"—*Though many, we're* ONE.

Boston Transcript.

The Story-Teller.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

MAKING CALLS.

BY KATE CAMERON.

"Let this plain truth those ingrates strike,
Who still, though blessed, new blessings crave:
That we may all have what we like,
Simply by liking what we have!"

"Mary," said Charles Henderson to his wife, as they rose from their noon-tide repast, "this would be a pleasant day for you to go out calling; can't you go?"

"I suppose I could," was the reply, "but I should have to take Charley with me, for I promised Jane she might have this afternoon."

"Well, then, draw Charley down to the store and I'll take care of him," said Mr. Henderson kindly; and as his wife followed him to the door, he gave her a good-bye kiss, and walked with elastic tread down the neatly graveled path leading to the little white gate.

Mary stood looking after him with a loving eye, and thought "what a dear, good husband he is! I ought to be very thankful."

It was a lovely day in October, and the breeze stole gently through the crimson vine-leaves clustering around the piazza of their cosey cottage-home. Mr. Henderson was engaged in mercantile business in the thriving town of Westbury. Industrious and frugal in his habits, he bade fair to become a successful merchant; and his young wife was ever ready to lend a helping hand, and by her economy and tact, aided him more than either of them realized. Nevertheless, she was not always contented with their still humble lot, although she seldom troubled her husband with any complaint. Many of her acquaintances moved in a higher circle of society, and she was by no means insensible to the inferiority of her furniture and dress, when compared with theirs; and it must be confessed that the remembrance of this fact sometimes caused her an unhappy hour.

On the afternoon in question, these repining thoughts thronged unbidden round her heart, and soon gained undisputed possession of that citadel. She turned away from the door with a listless air and ascended the stairs to her own room. How cheap the pretty cottage chamber set looked in comparison with Mrs. Thornton's elegant rosewood furniture! The white window shades, too, were vastly inferior to the costly curtains that draped the windows of her aristocratic friend; and how low the ceiling was! and how mean the ingrain carpet seemed to her ambitious vision! And as she began to make her toilette for the afternoon's walk, she ejaculated impatiently,

"Oh! dear! I've nothing fit to wear! My black silk looks so dowdy, and then, I've worn it so much; and my blue is at least two inches too short. I do think Charles might let me have a new dress; but it's always the way, a merchant's wife must be the last one served. Well!" she concluded with a sigh, "I must wear the black;" and as she fastened the despised dress she couldn't help mentally confessing that it fitted her trim form admirably, and although more than two years old, had borne its age remarkably well. Her neat straw hat, with its bright fall ribbons and flowers, was very becoming; and her street basque, just the style, although made out of her old cloak. Her kid gloves were not new, but were free from those untidy rips which too many ladies leave unmended. Surely these articles of apparel were not indicative of extreme destitution!

Before donning her outer wrappings, however, she prepared her twelve-month boy for his visit to "Papa's store." A fine little fellow was the pet Charley, and when clad in his new merino dress, with a pretty cloak and fancy hat, he might well be looked upon by loving eyes, with fond and proud affection.

Jane helped her mistress draw the little carriage down the steps, and out of the gate, and Mrs. Henderson proceeded on her way in rather a more desirable frame of mind.

She met several ladies who stopped to kiss Charley, and call him "a jewel," "a beauty," and "a splendid baby;" and arriving at her husband's store, he greeted her with his accustomed kindness, and proudly lifted his darling boy from the carriage, and telling his wife to enjoy all she could, and be home at tea time, he again bade her "good-bye."

Her first destination was Mrs. Judge Thornton's, the brown stone house on the hill; she was one of the *elite* of Westbury. As Mrs. Henderson opened the heavy iron gate, and walked up the box-edged walk, she gazed half enviously upon the elegant mansion and its tasteful surroundings. The yard was very large, containing fine trees and shrubbery; vases of geraniums, and mounds of verbena and heliotrope, while a fountain threw its crystal spray high up in the autumn sunshine, falling again with a musical sound into its marble basin.

She ascended the granite steps, and rang the bell, and was aided by a servant into a dimly lighted parlor; she sat down on the purple velvet tete-a-tete, and looked about her. It was all marble, velvet, and rosewood; everything that fancy could desire, or art invent; but it looked *too* formal, *too* faultless, and the visitor remembered that it was a *childless* home,—there were no tiny feet to tread upon those gorgeous carpets,—no little hands to disarrange those curious ornaments on the etegere,—no young faces to be reflected in those full-length mirrors,—and she said to herself "I would not give my Charley for them all."

Just then the rustle of brocade was heard, and Mrs. Thornton languidly entered the room. She was a pale, haughty-looking person, but when she spoke there was a gentle cadence in her tones that told she might have been an affectionate and happy woman had love but touched her heart with his magic wand. But the blessed ministry of children had been denied her, and ambition was the idol of her proud husband. It was evident that amid all the luxuries of wealth, she still felt lonely and sad.

After a brief call, Mary left, and as the iron gate again clanged behind her, she gave a sigh of relief and hastened on to Mrs. Livermore's, who lived in the large white mansion nearly opposite Judge Thornton's. When Mrs. Henderson took her seat in the parlor, she needed no previous acquaintance with the family to assure her that *children* formed an important element of the household. The floor was literally strewn with toys; a broken-headed doll lay on the sofa,—a rocking-horse stood in the middle of the room; and immediately after her entrance a noisy boy rushed in and began bounding a ball, at the imminent risk of mirrors and vases. He was soon followed by two little girls, with dirty faces and aprons, who were quite overwhelming in their attentions to Mrs. Henderson's bonnet strings and face-trimmings.

At last Mrs. Livermore entered, wearing a wrapper which might once have been of rich cashmere, but which was now quite too much soiled to be elegant. She held her baby in her arms, and although its robe was of finely wrought cambric, it was too crumpled and dingy to be excusable in the eyes of Mrs. Henderson, among whose distinguishing traits was a love of neatness and order. The call was as agreeable as could have been expected under the circumstances. Mrs. Livermore was an easy, affable woman, but too indolent and careless to govern her children, or keep them and herself dressed tidily. No wonder that her husband, who had been a prim and precise bachelor, was daily shocked at the appearance of his house and family, or that he rarely chose to spend an evening amid such confusion; which fact, together with her unruly children, and inefficient domestics, formed the staple of Mrs. Livermore's conversation on all occasions.

Mrs. Henderson again drew a long breath as she turned toward Mrs. Leigh's tasteful cottage. Here all was in perfect order; the two children models of good behavior, and Mrs. Leigh an excellent and amiable person; but alas! she was a widow, and as Mary Henderson thought how lonely it must be to tread life's pathway with no strong arm to lean upon, she prayed that she might be truly grateful for the love and devotion of her kind husband.

Her next call was at Mrs. Stanton's, a large and showily furnished house, but it was well known in Westbury that only the most strenuous exertions enabled the aspiring family to "keep up appearances." They toiled early and late, contrived, pinched, and scrimped in their daily living and apparel, that they might have the means for occasional display at parties and at church. Mary pitied them, and thought how unsatisfying must such a life be; all outside show,—no pure home enjoyment. And again she felt thankful for her own less ostentatious but far happier lot.

The short Autumn afternoon was drawing to a close, and she had time for but one more call, and that was on Mrs. Lane, the wife of her pastor. The parsonage was an attractive and cheerful looking dwelling, lacking none of the appliances of wealth. Mrs. Lane was blessed with a devoted husband, and three beautiful and affectionate children; but she was a confirmed invalid, and could not rise from the lounge in the sitting-room, to welcome Mrs. Henderson. She was a sweet-looking, intellectual woman, but her life was one of weariness and suffering; and only the consolations of the religion which she not only *professed*, but exemplified in all things, enabled her to endure her pain and languor with so much meekness and patience. Again did Mary's conscience reproach her,—with the priceless boon of *health*, how could she call herself *poor?*

She now returned with a light step, but lighter heart, to the little cottage from whose windows she already saw a light beaming invitingly. The cosey sitting-room had never looked so pleasant to her before; a cheerful fire burned in the grate; her husband was seated near, reading the evening paper, and Charley was asleep in his arms. The tea-table was neatly spread, only awaiting her return; and as she laid aside her outer garments, Jane brought in the tea and toast. Charles laid his little boy down gently in the crib, and after giving his wife the usual kiss of welcome, they sat down to their evening meal.

"Had a good time, Mary?" was his first inquiry.

"Yes, Charles, it has been truly a *good* time, for I have learned a lesson, this afternoon, which I trust will be life-long in its good results. I have been taught that none, however favored, can expect unalloyed happiness on earth, and that wealth does not bring with it perfect enjoyment. I would not exchange my quiet home, my husband, and my baby, my health, and my warm heart, for all the glittering treasures that gold alone can buy. I have learned that the sweetest of all earthly blessings is *contentment!*"

That evening, after Charles had returned to his store, and little Charley had been undressed, Mary was seated at her little work-table, but the sewing dropped from her fingers, and she thoughtfully took up her pocket-bible, the gift of her sainted mother; was it an angel's hand that opened it at the words of the Apostle?

"But godliness with contentment is great gain.

"For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

"And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content.

"But they that will be rich, fall into temptation, and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

"For the love of money is the root of all evil; which, while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows."

And as Mary closed the sacred volume, these words sank deep into her heart.

What better moral could we find for this little story about "Making Calls?"

The Traveler.

[Special Correspondence of Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

LETTERS FROM CALIFORNIA.

New Series.—Number Six.*

California Scenery—Hot Springs—Napa Soda Springs—The "Miner's Tent" in Ruins—Reflections thereon—A Class of "Critters" described, their Habits, Character, and Mischievous Conduct faithfully set forth—An Old Man's Opinion of Newspapers—Recipe attributed to Ex-Gov. Bigler.

Napa City, Cal., Dec. 20, 1860.

California is truly the land of wonders. She presents none of that similitude of scenery which pervades the older States, but everything is new, remarkable, soul-inspiring, majestic, and magnificent. Her towering pines piercing the clouds of heaven, with a girth that baffles imagination or belief; her stupendous mountains—the great banking house of our continent; her Yo Homite falls, whose aggregate height is about 2,500 feet, beside which all others sink into insignificance; her valleys where eternal summer reigns, and flowers bud and bloom continually; her bluff and craggy precipices; her subterraneous caverns; her geysers and medical springs; "her bays and broad armed ports;" her heaven-towering mountains on either side of you, with their snow-capped peaks standing as stoic monuments to the honor, glory, and greatness of the infinited God; her charming landscape scenery; all present a field for the tourist and admirer of the sublime, that knows no equal in our own or foreign lands.

Napa Valley is rich in soil, scenery, and natural curiosities. Here is to be seen, on the east side of the valley, the Hot Springs, occupying several acres of bottom lands. These springs are very numerous, and are highly esteemed for their healing properties by means of the hot bath. Their temperature is such as *to cook eggs in three minutes' time!* O. Peck, Esq., and his excellent wife, both late residents of West Cornwall, Vermont, have a hotel and a good supply of bath-houses, and all necessary comforts, on the premises.

High up among the hills, on the east side of the valley, are the celebrated Napa soda springs. Soda water gushes pure from the bosom of the earth. The soda water, as it comes from the hill, is deficient in the natural gas sufficient to give it the effervescing appearance and agreeable taste, and to throw the cork. To supply this lack, an extra quantity of the natural gas is secured by machinery, and forced with the water into a large vessel, from which, by pipes, the soda water, as charged with the gas, is conducted to the bottling machine. One man fills and corks the bottles, while two others take them away by means of tongs so constructed as to hold the cork down until tied. Four men can thus prepare and bottle from 60 to 75 dozen bottles daily. This soda water goes to market just as it comes from the spring, with not the least extraneous or manufactured ingredients. It is widely scattered through the State, and is the principal soda used in all the adjacent towns and villages.

Recently the "Miners' Tent," so called, was blown down by a vandal storm, causing universal regret, not only of the miners, but of all admirers of the "big trees." The "Miners' Tent" was the "local habitation" of a dozen miners, inside of one of those monarchs of the forest ("big tree,") whose girth sometimes exceeds 100 feet. The cavity in its trunk was eaten out by fire long since; the entrance was but a few feet in height and width, and within was an ample abode for two good sized families. It was unoccupied at the time of its destruction, and no lives were lost but its own. For many centuries its cloud-piercing top maintained its lofty position, courting the mountain blasts, and singing requiems to the fate of lesser trees which were often hurled headlong from their stand-points by the cruel and sportive winds. For centuries it has been sending outward and downward its long tap-roots, laying fast hold of its broad "*claim*," and rearing aloft its ambitious head, and drawing nourishment from soil and atmosphere, has managed to attain a corporosity which has spread its fame throughout the civilized world. Noble tree! Its living race is run. No more will the sturdy miner eat, and sleep, and dream of riches, or loved ones far away, or count his hard day's earnings within its sheltering embrace. No more will the eagle stoop in his soaring, and rest his flight on its lofty point, rocked and swayed in its cradle of emerald. No longer will it glory in its strength, and offer proud defiance to the wrathful storm king. It has fallen a captive to the combined strength of fire and storm. A change of condition has come at last. Its future remains to be revealed. Portions of it may be wrought into palatial residences, and again be inhabited, not by coarsely clad, long-bearded miners, but by ladies arrayed in oriental silks, and gentlemen in the finest of broadcloths. Or it may enter into the construction of a merchantman, or ocean steamer, and in its journeyings, visit foreign shores and distant seaports, and come again and again, laden with the wealth and treasures of the East, and lay them down, a tribute to the wonderful State that gave it nurture and kingly growth. Or it may lie in its three hundred feet of lowly bed, and, like mortals, become food for worms, with none to make mention of its former greatness and kindly deeds, or transmit to posterity an impartial record of its once living honors and commanding position among its brotherhood of trees. A charred and broken stump its only epitaph! Alas, this is a fate sad to contemplate. To conceive of a worse one, is difficult, unless that it be made into *locofoco* matches, and doomed to a fiery end.

All countries have their peculiarities. California is not an exception. It is infested by a troublesome class of "critters" that demand a passing notice at least. I believe they are classed among her natural productions. Their history has never yet, to my knowedge, been *fully and impartially* written; yet thousands are familiar with their habits. Their number is estimated by millions. They are every where detested, and there has been talk of commencing a war of extermination upon the entire race. The chief difficulty in pursuing and hunting them, arises from the singular fact that they seem bullet-proof. They can dodge the flash of Sharp's rifles, or Colt's revolvers, with almost unerring certainty, and they are too cunning to be caught in steel traps or gins. No animal of like avoirdupois weight and dimensions equals them in dexterity of movement. They are neither amphibious, graniverous or carniverous. They are remarkably gregarious, and move about in solid platoons, both for better self-defence and the seizure of their prey. They are tumultuous and riotous in their habits and dispositions. After having gone without food for twenty-four or thirty-six hours, they will lie in wait and pounce upon men, women, or children, and wound them severely! As yet, it is not known that any human being has ever *fallen* a deadly victim to their violence and thirst for blood, for every body here carries weapons of defence against these enemies of our race. Nor is it by any means certain that in some personal encounter with one or more of the largest of these creatures, some nervous and half frightened mortal has not been compelled to give up the ghost, in some lonely spot, far from friends and kindred, with none to perform his sepultural rites, or tell to the world his sad and wretched fate. With their keen eyes fastened on their victim, their leap is as quick as the electric flash. They execute their purposes with their teeth, and their bite is terrible, as thousands of living, credible witnesses in the State can verify. No elixer or compound of any son of Esculapius has ever been discovered that would heal their wounds. Time and rest can only afford a permanent cure. The numbers of this enemy are fearfully on the increase, as is evidenced by the fact that over 100,000 persons more have been attacked by them in this than in any previous year since the settlement of the State! The commonwealth has truly become alarmed in view of the wide spread evil, and may take Legislative action thereon, at an early date. There is one thing, however, that can and shall be put down in justification and extenuation of their deeds. *Hunger* drives them to acts of desperation and cruelty, and their bite is seldom or never beyond skin deep; and he who can effect a good insurance on his cuticle, would remain proof against their incissors and virus. Some Down East Yankee has invented a specific, so called, by the sale of which, to the credulous Californians, he has filled his coffers. It has already been pronounced a *humbug*, not worth half as much as one's *finger nails*, they being considered a surer remedy for the evil in question. It is surely a ludicrous sight to enter at 12 o'clock at night a large sleeping apartment, where a dozen or score of fellows, *all old bachelors*, are trying to compose themselves in sleep. A half dozen or more may be seen sitting up in bed, scratching their sides and shoulders, and making wry faces at the little rascals, busily intent on puncturing their epidermis in fifty places at once, and eager to secure both *board and lodging*, at the weary sleepers' expense. We have no faith in the doctrine that "nothing was made in vain." If so, California fleas must be a grand exception to the general rule.

I think it is a remark of H. T. B., in the Rural, that the *taking of a paper* ought to be preceded by *prayer and fasting*. In this country, where feasting and dancing more largely prevail than acts of religious devotion, H. T. B.'s condition would be generally ignored. In presenting the Rural, we meet with a variety of excuses. That of a rich loquacious old maid is highly illustrative of character—I have no need of newspapers, was her sober yet roguish reply, for I have always succeeded to a charm in *manufacturing my own news*. S. B. R.

P. S.—In a climate where the attacks of fleas are a constant source of annoyance, a specific is a *desideratum*. It is with much pleasure that I am enabled to make known the following recipe, which I am assured has never failed when administered according to directions:—Boil a quart of tar until it becomes quite thin. Remove the clothing, and before the tar becomes perfectly cool, apply with a broad flat brush a thin smooth coating to the entire surface of the body and limbs. While the tar remains soft, the flea becomes entangled in its tenacious folds, and is soon rendered perfectly harmless. It will soon form a hard, smooth coating, entirely impervious to his bite. Should the coating crack at the knee or elbow-joints, it is merely necessary to retouch it slightly at those places. The whole coat should be renewed every three or four weeks. This remedy possesses sovereign efficacy, and having the advantage of *simplicity and economy*, should be generally known. Its discovery is attributed (though somewhat uncertain,) to Ex-Gov. Bigler, of this State. A still simpler remedy is one of which I claim the honor and right of discovery,—in theory only,—having not yet proved its practical effects:—On feeling the bite of one of the little rascals, thrust the part bitten *immediately* into boiling water. The intense heat of the water produces a two-fold effect. It stretches your tormenter dead before your eyes, and removes the pain of his bite! S. B. R.

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* The publication of this series of Letters from California was interrupted in April last, by the pressure of War and other news upon our columns. We now resume them, and hope to complete the series in our present volume. Though a few months have elapsed since they were written, we think the letters will prove of interest and value to many readers.—Ed.

Wit and Humor.

WAR WIT.

Taking Shot Coolly.—In the late battle at Bull Run, a soldier, around whom the cannon shot were flying particularly thick, on seeing one strike and bury itself in a bank near him, ran to the hole it had scooped out, remarking, "Shoot away, you can't hit twice in the same place." At the same instant another shot struck a few feet distant, almost covering the fellow with sand and gravel. Emerging from what had so nearly become his grave, he continued the unfinished sentence, "but you come so pesky near it that the first hole is uncomfortable."

The following lines may be read with profit by army contractors for clothing:

"March," said the Colonel, "forward march!"
Crack went the seams in halves;
A hundred steps, a hundred men
Showed just two hundred calves."

WHERE'S FLOYD?

'Tis queer that the rebels have never employed,
To *rifle* their cannon, the dexterous Floyd;
As a matter of habit he couldn't decline
The dirtiest job in *that* sort of line;
And then, if his genius he tried to exert,
His practice (on bonds) must have made him expert!

The ordinary relation existing between a shell and a kernel was reversed in the late battle, as several of the Colonels were seen trying to get away from the shells. Their mental condition was a metaphysical paradox. Although all in a tremor, they were quite non-shellant.

A correspondent from the seat of war writes:—"Our soldiers are charmed every night with the lays of the nightingale." To which the Boston *Post* rejoins—"They would be a good deal more charmed with the *lays* of a hen."

An exchange announces that it is the determination of the War Department that "the volunteer force shall be entirely *remuddled*." This is not necessary. Incompetent officers have "muddled" the force enough already.

Within One of It.—Many of the officers at Bull Run lost the opportunity of becoming scared veterans by *acting* like scared veterans.

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

GEOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 33 letters.
My 12, 27, 8, 7, 4 is a river in Prussia.
My 33, 31, 8, 24 is a town in England.
My 5, 31, 14, 28, 32, 11 is a city in the United States.
My 27, 2, 8, 3 is a town in Russia.
My 22, 25, 26, 12 is a river in England.
My 23, 28, 12, 7 is a river in France.
My 27, 13, 8, 28, 12 is a town in Wisconsin.
My 3, 20, 1, 31, 12 is a river in Austria.
My 27, 2, 8, 22, 30 is a town in Scotland.
My 9, 10, 16, 3, 26, 12 is a river in England.
My 6, 8, 26, 12, 17 is a town in France.
My 19, 16, 29, 18 is a town in Maine.
My 21, 7, 19, 23 is a town in Asia.
My whole is a portion of scriptural advice.

August, 1861. F. N. Satterlee.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM.

A tract of land is to be laid out in the form of an equal square, and to be inclosed with a rail fence five rails high, so that each rod of fence shall contain ten rails. How large must this whole square be to contain just as many acres as there are rails in the fence that incloses it, so that every rail shall fence an acre?

Clyde, N. Y., 1861. M. W.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

AN INGENIOUS COBBLER.

The Steilacoom cobbler (there is but one) has hit upon a novel and ingenious mode of spelling "Shoe Shop," by which he saves three of four letters comprising the word, or at least omits them, and still spells the words in full. The sign by which he proclaims his business is characteristic of the proprietor, who is known as a man of very few words, whose conversation rarely extends beyond monosyllables, and who is very provident of even them. Will not some of the "little folks" in the Rural family paint the sign as does the cobbler?

☞ Answer in two weeks.

CHARADE.

My first is an article quite easy to be found;
My second is a thing of which, no doubt, you're very fond;
My third is an amusement which you see at parties gay;
And my whole is made by God our appetites to stay.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 605.

Answer to Geographical Enigma:—A soft answer turneth away wrath.

Answer to Rebus:—Spark.

Answer to Algebraical Problem:—78½ and 60 rods.

Advertisements.

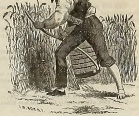
AN ARTIFICIAL LEG
INVENTED BY DOUGLAS BLY, M. D.

By frequent dissections, the Doctor succeeded in embodying the principles of the natural leg in an artificial one, and by so doing produced one of the most complete and successful inventions ever attained by man.

A pamphlet containing full description and illustrations can be had without charge, by addressing
DOUGLAS BLY, M. D., Rochester, N. Y.

See the annexed cut, and also letter from H. J. Drake.

FIG. 13.



Dr. Bly—*Dear Sir:* The artificial leg you made for me serves me better than I ever supposed any artificial leg could. I have mowed my grass myself—and that, too, on the marsh, where it is very boggy. I have cradled my oats myself and raked and bound them; and I have been all around the neighborhood threshing. In fact I can do most all kinds of work. The side motion at the ankle-joint is worth everything. If I step on a stick or stone, or on any uneven place, the ankle yields just enough to let the foot accommodate itself to it, and thereby prevents all stumbling or inconvenience.

Most sincerely and thankfully yours,
H. J. DRAKE.

Chelsea, Mich., August 15, 1861.

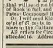
HICKOK'S PATENT PORTABLE
KEYSTONE CIDER AND WINE MILL.

This admirable machine is now ready for the fruit harvest of 1861. It is, if possible, made better than ever before, and well worthy the attention of farmers wanting such Machines.

It has no superior in the market, and is the only mill that will properly grind Grapes. Price, $40. For sale by dealers or the manufacturer.
W. O. HICKOK,
604-10t Eagle Works, Harrisburg, Pa.

A Splendid Farm to Let for a Term of 5 Years.—The subscriber, having been in feeble health for several years, has now concluded to try long sea voyages, and will let about 300 acres (all tillable) of his farm for a money rent. The farm is in perfect order and one of the best in the State for either grain or grass, excellently watered, buildings first rate. As he intends sailing by 1st of October it is important that intending offerers should view it immediately.
602-tf ROBT. J. SWAN.
Rose Hill Farm, near Geneva, Ont. Co., N. Y., July 20, 1861.

ATTENTION! BEE-KEEPERS.—Kidder's new system of Bee Management, whereby a swarm of Bees will collect from one to three hundred pounds of honey in one season. Bees can be made to swarm any season, or prevented from doing so. Can be prevented from flying to the forests in swarming-time. Bee-robbery easily prevented. Moth millers prevented effectually. Never lose bees by the chill of winter or otherwise.



I will send my new Book Circular, containing 32 pages, free of postage, to any Bee-Keeper that will send me his Post-Office address. It gives the contents of Book in full, and gives general explanations, and *cuts* of the Patent Compound Hive.

Or, I will send Kidder's Guide to Apiarian Science, on the receipt of 57 cents, in postage stamps, which will give full particulars in the Culture and Management of the Honey Bee.

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